



Cambridge SHOPPING Chronicle, by Mike Petty

c.27.2 : shopping by Mike Petty

includes trades & services
see also Industries

Mill Rd 'often compared to Portobello Rd; wide range of speciality & local shops ... in 1890s could buy anything from pianos to tombstones [446.14.4] [446.14.4]

1880

1882 09 30

Samuel Ballard & Son carried on fashion business in Petty Cury for 40 years on corner Alexandra Street; hit by rise of Co-operative Society 1882 09 30

1883

Laurie & McConnal opened [446.12.1]

1889 08 23

Ice-cream vendor knocked out by falling branch [2.5]

1888 03 02

Agitation for covered market [27.3.1.17]

1889 01 *Shoppers in Sidney Street 1961* 79.25

Joshua Taylor's premises in Sidney Street rebuilt in three months, now finest block in Cambridge [2.17]

1890

1891

Hallack & Bond sketch of new building [NI.1.14]

1892

University Typewriting office established [10.8]

1897

Hallack & Bond new premises Petty Cury [NI.1.14]

1898 07 26

A meeting in connection with the proposed Cambridge Ice and Cold Storage Company was held at the University Arms Hotel. A central site had been secured at Petty Cury and they had customers both for ice and cold storage. The two biggest firms in Cambridge had agreed to have cold storage, beside many other gentlemen, and they would have orders for eleven hundred tons of ice for the first weeks working. Some hundreds of shares were taken up before the meeting ended - CDN 1898 07 26

1898 09 19

The site in Sturton Street, Cambridge on which the new buildings of the Co-operative Society have been erected has a frontage of exactly a hundred feet. To the East are erected to substantial houses, to be occupied by servants of the society - who are to have the care of the dairy department, and on the North is a shop with plate glass front, fitted with marble top counters. Behind this has been erected a dairy and slaughter-house. There is a space for washing and cleaning the carts, vans and horses. Pens for sheep, pigs and cattle are also provided CDN 1898 09 19

1898 11 11

In vacation time Cambridge shopkeepers have early closing on Thursday afternoons. But so soon as term opens early closing ceases. With the shop assistants in their desire to have a half-holiday once a week our sympathy must go out. The work of serving in a shop from morning to night from Monday to Saturday is a heavy strain even on those who are robust. The only way to secure this half-holiday is to get the shopkeepers to consent to it. That is easy in the case of most of them. The difficulty is with those who refuse to fall in with the majority. One man who refuses to close may deprive all the assistants in a town of their holiday 1898 11 11 [1.3]

1899 07 17

A fatality occurred today. The scene of the accident was the new stores being erected in Burleigh Street, Cambridge for the Co-operative Company. The outer walls have been built up and the workmen are engaged on the interior. One scaffolder, named Thomas Filby, aged 60, was engaged on the scaffolding erected above the top floor. He fell sheer into the basement on to a heap of broken brick. Before he lapsed into a state of utter insensibility he was heard to murmur, "It's all up" - 1899 07 17

1900

1900 01 25

The Cambridge Co-operative Society has erected spacious new premises in Burleigh street. The building is imposing and by contrast with the other not very ornate premises in Burleigh street is rendered all the more conspicuous. On the ground floor are spaces for the butchery, drapery and boot and shoe department. The first floor is well laid out for other branches with a ready-made clothes emporium and on the top floor is a really fine meeting room. The old building in Fitzroy street will be retained for the grocery portion of the business CDN 1900 01 25

1900 04 07

The shopkeepers of Cambridge who have agreed to close early on Thursday afternoons during the May term have shown a consideration for their employees which is deserving of the highest praise. There is much to be

said for early closing all the year round but the next best thing is that throughout the summer months, while the attractions of the open air hold out, shop assistants should have a few hours of breathing space every week. The shopkeepers will gain a good deal. Their assistants will serve them all the better because they are considerably treated, and the approval of the general public will be theirs also CDN 1900 04 07

1901 08 09

Messrs Pink Brothers new 'Knackery' in Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, stands in an isolated spot and is constructed on the most hygienic principles. In one corner is a large dissecting table and there are two huge coppers for boiling down the carcasses, the remains of which are subsequently sent away by rail. Some distance away is a tank ventilated with a shaft considerably higher than the top of the passenger carriages that may pass on the railway. The possibility of any offensive odour reaching travellers is thus quite obviated and the same care has been exhibited in regard to any unpleasantness that may arise from the boiling operations 01 08 09

1902 04 22

A Cambridge butcher was charged with obtaining money from Caius College. A system of frauds had been in operation since 1886 in reference to the supply of meat to various colleges. He had been asked to produce his books but said they had been burnt on the bonfire on Ladysmith night. A detective visited the shop and found some ledgers in the safe. There were more in the stoke hole of the conservatory and in a large meat basket tied up with rope CDN 1902 04 22

1902 04 29

Outside Cambridge police court there was an air of suppressed excitement. As soon as the doors of the court were opened the space allotted to the public quickly filled. Hundreds were unable to obtain admission and eagerly waited outside for the chance of catching some details. A butcher from Petty Cury was accused of cheating and defrauding Caius College since January 1888. It was alleged that meat was constantly booked to the college which was not delivered at all and the cook was supplied his own meat gratis. 02 04 29

1902 07 22

The problem of the general servant is with us always. The tyranny of the domestic, her varying moods and fluctuating caprices seemingly know no end. Her demands have gradually become more peremptory and extensive for some years past and housekeepers have become painfully familiar with Sundays off, evenings out, cycles in the kitchen and swains in constant evidence. The Cambridge autocrats of the kitchen are now going a step further; the very latest request is a week's holiday at the Coronation. It is not stated whether the majority of them propose attending the Abbey CDN 1902 07 22

1903 01 08

Cambridge tradesmen complain bitterly of the tipping system in vogue by the 'Varsity men by which they are compelled to pay blackmail on a very extensive scale. There is quite an army of college servants clamouring for tips and all must be satisfied if the tradesmen wishes to keep his University clients. The college porter 'farms' for Freshmen's lists. The minimum price for a list is 1s. Then there are the bedmakers, gyps and shoeblacks, all of whom expect to receive presents from the shops where 'their gentlemen' give orders. 03 01 08

1903 02 14

Messrs Laurie and McConnal are almost universal providers, for their extensive premises, nos.121-124 Fitzroy Street, contained many departments. Today they are no more. In their place is a great gap, a space which instead of containing the thousand and one articles wherewith to furnish the homes of Cambridge has nothing to show but heaps of charred timber, twisted iron girders and dismembered masses of masonry. The whole premises have been destroyed as completely as fire can destroy. In less than three hours they licked up goods and buildings valued at up to £100,000 03 02 14

1903 02 17

Many thousands of Cambridge people witnessed the spectacle of the fire at Laurie and McConnal's in Fitzroy Street. The crowd increased to gigantic proportions and to keep them in check it was necessary to stretch ropes across on either side. The Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Fire Brigade Committee watched the progress of the fire and the unremitting efforts of the firemen. The interested crowd did not let the firemen work without encouragement and the fireman with the nozzle working in clouds of smoke was cheered heartily when he commenced his task. As soon as the hopelessness of saving Lauries was recognised special attention was turned to defending the adjoining premises of Messrs Sturton and Mumford. 03 02 17

1903 02 20

The Great Fire. Laurie & McConnal, Ltd., Universal stores, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, will open their temporary premises in Fair Street with brand new stock of furnishing, general ironmongery, stationery, haberdashery, china and glass. Business usual in the Boot and Tool department, right opposite the destroyed building. – Advert 03 02 20

1903 02 20

After the great fire in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, public opinion was strongly expressed in favour of the Volunteer Fire Brigade being in possession of a steam fire engine. It would require, with driver and stoker, eight men to work the engine and, with reliefs of the same number, would necessitate 16 men being engaged. But with only one engine they would have been able to play four jets on either the front or back of the fire, and one side would be entirely unprovided for. The engines and paid brigade would be so expensive that the town authorities would not be justified in incurring the outlay for protecting the few buildings at which they might be necessary. 03 02 20

1903 05 21

Cambridge councillors discussed plans for the erection of new premises for Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street. The bye-laws said there should be a certain amount of air-space behind domestic buildings – house, office or shop - and these had no such space. There was no doubt the plans were in contravention of the bye-laws, the question was whether the Council would refuse them. If they were passed it would be an illegal act. They should not alter the bye-laws to suit the convenience of any class of people. 03 05 21

1903 06 13

Messrs Simpson and Co's bakery in Cherry Hinton Road Cambridge is as up-to-date and hygienic as any in the Kingdom. It is the only steam and machine bakery, a substantially constructed building fitted with machinery of a strange appearance. Electricity supplies the light and driving power but exquisite cleanliness is the feature which most strikes the visitors. The public have not yet realised the importance of insisting on such conditions though they send a whole-hearted grumble at finding a cremated insect, stray pieces of the miller's sack or unusual traces of potato in their bread. c03 06 18

1903 08 20

Laurie and McConnal applied for permission to erect a bridge over Fitzroy Lane to connect the two buildings which they propose to erect on either side of the lane. It would be 33 feet above the level of the street in the centre and 28 ft 6 inches at each end. They also desired to lay an iron pipe under the roadway from one portion of the premises to the other for heating purposes. The application was approved on payment of a rent of 5s. per annum 03 08 20

1903 11 21

One of the events of the year was the great fire which swept away the extensive premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. Now within nine months the ruins have been replaced by more convenient, commodious and up-to-date premises and the business is in full swing in its new home. They are the first entirely steel-frame buildings erected in this country. Those who remember the former premises cannot but be struck with the immense improvement effected, with lifts, driven by an electric motor, at the service of customers any time of the day. 03 11 21

1903 12 08

Christmas Day happening to fall on a Friday means that trade generally will be at a standstill for three days in succession. Housewives must either purchase their stocks of meat, bread, fish and vegetables on the Thursday or dealers in these goods must open on Saturday. Opinion is divided. Some bakers say they cannot make enough bread on Thursday for the three following days but others say they sell practically no bread on Boxing Day as people do not eat so much at Christmas. Butchers are inclined to close on the Saturday but fishmongers, where the supply of ice is an item of the trade, will open for a few hours only. Unless united action is taken some persons engaged in the four trades will have their holidays considerably cut into. 03 12 08

1903 12 16

The new bakery of Mr G.P. Hawkins in Parsonage Street, Cambridge is a substantially built erection with deep foundations. The visitor passes through an artistic lobby covered with green and white newelike tiles of white glass which fit tightly together so no dirt or insect can attach itself to the walls. The floors are of granolithic and the electric light is installed in every compartment. The bread is produced by up-to-date machinery. In a short time a continuous electric current and an automatic kneader will be installed. There is a glass roof in the yard so the carts can be loaded comfortably, irrespective of the vagaries of the weather. 03 12 16

1904 02 12

Messrs. Church and King's establishment in Sidney Street is the first business in Cambridge to be cleaned by the Eastern Vacuum Cleaning Company. The settees in the showroom were a fair test of the process. In thick upholstery dust must necessarily accumulate but after the cleaner had been applied no amount of beating could raise a speck of dust. The carpet also was cleaned effectually and the colours brightened. Mr King said: "It takes absolutely all the dust out" 04 02 12

1904 04 14

Boot repairers business hit by invention of rubber heel protectors [2.4]

1904 05 18

A fire destroyed Mrs Cornell's fishmonger's shop on Mill Road, Cambridge. It was caused through the ignition of some fat used for the purpose of frying fish. Although the shop was sparsely stocked there was sufficient inflammable material in it to make it impossible to arrest the fire in its early stages, and soon the interior was a mass of flames which rapidly penetrated through the ceiling and attacked the contents of the front room on the first floor. The alarm was given by means of the Thoday Street fire alarm and the firemen arrived within twelve minutes with the horsed fire escape and tender and prevented the flames attacking adjoining premises. 1904 05 18

1904 10 08

"Tradesmen commission people to recommend services to undergraduates & supply items to bedders for which give commission if sold" - claim [3.4]

1905

Belfast Linen warehouse opened, Regent Street 72 10 27 [7.11]

1905 05 02

An outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Hallack and Bond, wholesale grocers, Petty Cury, Cambridge. About 11.18 pm smoke and flames were discovered issuing from a store room. The alarm was at once given and the horsed fire escape, tender and hose cart were soon on the scene. With the aid of one hydrant, the inmates of the building and the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak just in time to prevent a serious conflagration 05 05 02b

1905 07 01

Tea dealers have been running down their stock prior to the reduction in tax announced by the Budget. Last night there was a tremendous rush to get tea out of bond to replenish supplies. At

Cambridge the stores of the four railway companies have been converted into bonded warehouses where tea has been accumulating and by Friday they had 245 chests ready for delivery. At six o'clock this morning about 23 tons was taken away to the shops so customers can be supplied. 05 07 01

1905 12 16

Death E.A. Wadsworth, mineral water manufacturer – 05 12 16a

1906 04 19

'Cambridge for Cantabrigians' was a sentiment voiced by two prominent men. W.B. Redfern objected to looking outside the county when appointing a new council surveyor while Mr A.S. Campkin said Cambridge tradesmen were being ousted by large combinations of non-resident traders. Money spent in the shops of genuine local tradesmen remains in the town; already many find it hard work to keep their heads above water. 06 04 19a

1906 09 12

The recent hot weather and absence of rain has resulted in a scarcity of milk through the scorching of the pasture and some dealers have been compelled to buy from rival tradesmen and sell at the price at which they bought, merely to retain their customers. One has already increased his price from twopence to threepence a pint but larger dairymen have retained their customary charge of fourpence a quart 06 09 12a

1906 11 17

Money lending allegations – Cambridge tradesmen and students – 06 11 17d

1907 03 20

The Stetchworth Dairy Company delivered milk in cans stamped with their name and round number. Percy Atkins, one of their roundsmen noticed the Babraham Dairy Company using a can which had the words 'St' and 'Dairy' on it; the rest of the name had been soldered over. But they said it was old and rusty, so they thought it had been abandoned. The dairy could have it back if they wanted. Magistrates said that obliterating the name was ill advised, but the charge of theft was dismissed. 07 03 20 & a

1907 03 23

National Union of Shop Assistants establish branch [3.7]

1907 04 10

The University bought all kinds of foreign meat as cheap as they could, never mind the quality – from Argentina where they bought mutton at three ha'pence a pound - butchers were told. Then there was the poultry. Years ago they bought poultry from the farmers, nowadays they got it from Russia, frozen, as they got their eggs. The public should know what they were buying and foreign and English meat should be marked as such. (Applause) 07 04 10

1907 05 20

The old-time bakery was a low-roofed, gloomy compartment, reeking with a variety of odours, lighted by the flat flame gas burners, inhabited by perspiring men and lads working in temperatures suggestive of an inferno. Compare that with the conditions of Mr G.P. Hawkins' Model Bakery in Parsonage Street where unlimited supplies of pure air and natural light are obtainable and the most modern electrical appliances are installed with three ovens baking 160 loaves every hour. 07 05 20 & a

1907 11 27

The Stetchworth Dairies vans supply 400 gallons a milk daily to 18 colleges and 1,800 families in Cambridge and three tons of butter and 8,000 eggs are sent out each week from their depot in King Street. People may have sterilised milk if they wish but the aim is to get good milk at the consumer's

door within two hours of it being taken from the cow. Milking takes place at four in the morning and one in the afternoon so it is fresh for afternoon tea. 07 11 27 & a

1908 01 31

For years bachelor Harris Norman lived the life of a miser in Romsey Town. He was endowed with a positive genius for accumulating money but never spent more than would suffice to keep soul and body together. He laid the foundations of his fortune as a hawker of cheap jewellery, then speculated in stocks and shares. In his will he bequeathed the whole of his property to be divided between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the London Jewish Synagogue. 08 01 31b – details 08 02 07 & a

1908 02 15

Careless wholesale confectionary, Burleigh St, bankrupt – 08 02 15e

1908 04 20

The confidence trickster has been active in Cambridge. Three jewellers received telephone messages purporting to come from well-known residents, asking for a selection of gold chains to be sent to their houses on approval. Messrs Reed sent an employee for confirmation, who found no order had been given. But Otto Wehrle sent a messenger with several chains to Mr Verrinder of the Avenue. He met a gentleman on the steps of the house who promised to select one and return the remainder. Nothing has been heard from him since. 08 04 20

1908 05 04

Mrs Briggs' First-class registry office, Regent Street, Cambridge, has all classes of superior, reliable town and country servants. Ladies requiring to be quickly and well suited should apply now. Includes: Cook-General, tall, superior country girl, good worker, 2½ years' reference; £16. House-parlourmaid, tall, superior country servant, carve, valet, good waitress and needlewoman, £21. Twenty young country servants, requiring first situations as nurses, housemaids, generals, between maids and kitchen maids, small wages, to be trained. – advert 08 05 04

1908 09 18

Butchers had no means of knowing whether meat was from an animal infected with tuberculosis. Now they would insist on a warranty from the farmer who is in a queer fix. If farmers who sell in Cambridge market refuse to give the warranty then local butchers will buy London-killed meat. If they give a warranty they risk having to pay compensation for any meat found to be tuberculous. CWN 08 09 18

1909

Mitcham's shop opens [2.23]

1909 02 12

Hallack and Bond can trace their association with Cambridge back over 100 years: it was there that Elizabeth Woodcock purchased her groceries before being lost in the snow in 1799. Tea was a luxury then, now it is a necessity and their delicate Katharata blend produces pleasing results. A visit to their tea room is a revelation: upon a tea-tasting day fragrant bouquets from the Far East assail the nostrils and the palate including one with a beautiful peach-like perfume 09 02 12

1909 06 05

"Please don't shop on Bank holiday" written in tar on shop that opened [3.9]

1910

1910

Joshua Taylor's centenary [3.1]

1910 01 28

Leon Rothschild, a Russian tailor's cutter and Israel Schnitzer a tailor of Prospect Row appeared in court. Leon said he worked from 8am to 8pm and earned two guineas a week, but had then been given the sack. Israel however said he gave Leon work when there was any for him to do and he was paid at the rate of seven pence an hour. He had lent Rothschild money for his wedding expenses, paying for a ring and a pair of ear-rings. An IOU was produced but there was dispute as to whether a Russian word on the document meant 'received' or not so an interpreter was called in. 10 01 218f

1910 05 20

Residents from Cherry Hinton Road complained that if linen were hung out to dry in the garden 'smuts' caused by smoke from the chimney of the Swiss Laundry made it so dirty that it had to be taken in and washed again. The air ought not to be polluted by this offensive smell and dirt and they suggested the chimney be carried up another 50 feet and the manager of the laundry be requested to use different fuel. 10 05 20a

1910 07 15

The proprietor of the Swiss Laundry, Cherry Hinton was summonsed for allowing the chimney to send forth black smoke, causing a nuisance to residents. Complaints went back to 1903 but had stopped when they put in a new boiler in 1908 and started burning Welsh coal. Since then it had started again. It was impossible to hang clothes out to dry. Mrs Robjent said she'd washed a tablecloth three times and eventually had to send it to the laundry. The fruit in the garden got covered with black smuts and those who worked there looked like sweeps. 10 07 15a

1910 07 29

The Cambridge Cooperative Bakery in James Street is now the best-equipped and most up-to-date in the country. The yard used for loading vans has been built upon and the old bread-room demolished and replaced with a spacious new model bakery. A large rotary mixer can covert four sacks of flour into perfectly mixed dough in ten minutes and an ingenious piece of machinery turns out 2,000 loaves an hour. After the opening a procession of the Society's 30 vans and carts preceded by a brass band paraded the principal streets 10 07 29d

1911 04 15

The day after Bank Holiday is busiest of year for pawnbrokers due to the loss of three days wages - Good Friday, Saturday & Monday [3.18]

1911 04 15

Hot-cross buns sellers start shouting their wares at 5.30am [3.19]

1911

Market stalls reduced by 62, from 250 & roads around Square widened [273.1.24]

1911 11 10

Two daring swindlers victimised a number of University tradesmen by representing themselves as 'Varsitymen and ordering goods to a small amount to be sent to their rooms. They paid with cheques for £5 'from their father' which they got the shopkeeper to cash. The swindlers looked typical undergraduates in grey flannel trousers and tweed jackets, one of them had a gown over his arm. They gave Magdalene as their college and their names were found on the University register. 11 11 10g

1911 11 24

John Stanley, poulterer of Peas Hill sued the G.E.R. Company for damages sustained in the carriage of 84 ducklings and three geese from Liverpool Street to Cambridge. They were to have been sent by passenger train the same day. But instead they were taken on to Doncaster. He made numerous inquiries but it was not until 9pm that the birds arrived at the station but the GER could not deliver them until Monday, by which time they would have been bad. But he had an old contract that said the goods were sent at his risk and he lost his case. 11 11 24f

1912

D. MacKay set up [9.8]

1912 01 26

Dr Waldstein of Newton Hall says Cambridge is a place where there should be some industry where people who are often idle might be employed. There are women who work - bedmakers for instance - who have husbands who do not. Some years ago he tried a scheme for wood carving but it fell through and the local clay is not right for pottery. Now he proposed the establishment of a heraldic bureau to become a centre of inquiries from architects and provide private individuals with authoritative information on family coats of arms. 12 01 26f &g

1912 05 03

The new Shops Acts means all workers in shops are secured one legal half-holiday in the working week. This has been the case locally for several years with the majority of shops closing voluntarily. Now the others must fall into line whether they like it or not. Certain businesses are exempt such as licensed premises, railway refreshment rooms, cycle shops and purveyors of milk, flowers and similar articles of a perishable character. It is desirable that the University traders should close on the same day and a petition is being signed asking for Congregation Day to be moved from Thursday. 12 05 03c & d Shops Act brings Thursday early closing [3.11]

1912 05 17

Cambridge tobacconists are organising a petition in favour of compulsory closing. Many wish to close but a tobacconist in St Andrew's Street complains that although he would be glad of a rest on Thursday afternoons he cannot afford to do so as shops on either side of him are doing a good trade and his regular customers would desert him. College kitchens have stores of tobacco which they will sell to members of the University and this will have to be fought out in the future. Amongst the signatures are John Kitteridge, A.J. Ransom, Albert Maile, S.P. Ora and Bacon Bros. 12 05 17

1912 07 19

The Medical Officer's report on pure milk supplies includes excellent photographs showing the good caused by pulling down old cow sheds and their replacement with up-to-date buildings. There are 305 milch cows in Cambridge, kept by 30 cowkeepers, but a large number of purveyors buy supplies from Huntingdon, Norfolk and Buckingham while cream is brought from as far away as Wiltshire or Somerset. The average consumption is less than half-a-pint per head per day. Amongst the poorest milk is a luxury and used chiefly in tea. The practice of ladling out milk from a deep can is a source of contamination: the milkman's hand may enter it or rain and dust get in when the lid is removed. 12 07 19

1912 12 21

Butchers sell less meat at Christmas - people go for poultry [3.10]

1913 05 16

Death William Eaden Lilley 13 05 16 p6 & p7 CIP [1.4]

1913 06 07

Winton Smith convicted for selling ham on half-day, had claimed it was perishable [3.12]

1913 07 18

Kate Betsy Cleverley carried on business as a practical watchmaker and jeweller for 24 years. She came from a family of watchmakers and jewellers named Hayward who formerly owned a flourishing business at Norwich and gained a certificate in the craft, becoming one of the first ladies to enter upon such a career. On her marriage she and her husband opened a business at 25 City Road in which she practically assisted until her death. Women watchmakers are not common and she showed herself to be a highly-skilled worker. 13 07 18 p6 CIP

1913 07 26

J.S. Banyard produces pipe & cigarettes using tobacco grown in Suffolk [3.13]

1913 12 12

The Mayor of Cambridge was asked by the National Union of Shop Assistants to recommend that shops should not open on the Saturday following Christmas so that the assistants' holiday might extend over the weekend. But he declined to do so. However a large number of traders, representing every firm of importance, including grocers and provision dealers have said they will definitely close. They include Joshua Taylor, W. Heffer, Eaden Lilley, Belfast Linen, the Co-operative Society, Barrett and Son, Alphonso Smith and the London Rubber Company 13 12 12 p7 CIP

1913 12 19

Charles Dixon said he came to Cambridge 50 years ago as a journeyman tailor and worked from three in the morning till eleven at night. Then he learnt the 'cotton' and took a manager's place in a large firm opposite St Johns after which he opened a business for himself in Downing Street. He worked hard for 40 years and built up a big trade. He built a little mission room in Victoria Street uplifting the fallen, acquired the Hoop Hotel to do away with the licence and plunged into house property. But this went wrong and he'd lost everything 13 12 19 p9

1914 01 17

Fishmonger summoned for crying his wares, discharged [3.23]

1914 04 17

The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g

1914 09 11

Sadd, Antique dealer, fell roof Kings Chapel 14 09 11

1915 05 07

Tradesmen in distress: French polisher said tradesmen could not to have their shop fronts polished, lodging house keepers said rooms empty – rates relieved 15 05 07 p7

1915 05 21

Friebourgh & Treyer, tobacconists, to prevent further misrepresentation, will carry on business under the name of the present partners, G & W. Evens (both Englishmen by birth and descent) in whose family the business has been for the last 125 years. The name will in future be Evans and Evans, 12 Market Hill, Cambridge 15 05 21 p1

1915 08 21

W.K. Bird & son vinegar works Magdalene Street closes after 108years (founded 1807), premises sold Magdalene College [2.11]

1916 05 31

Tailors Busy. We understand that the result of the agitation carried on some months ago to secure work, for Cambridge has been the placing of a large order for officers' uniforms with Cambridge tailors. An order for at least 800 uniforms has been distributed between the tailors of the town. No doubt a little difficulty is being experienced in getting labour at the present time, so many tailors having long since patriotically responded to the call 16 05 31 CIPof

1916 10 08

Chamber of Commerce to be formed following meeting of traders; had been accustomed to give very long credit ... would have to shorten terms– 16 10 08c

1916 11 06

Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a week by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

1916 12 06

Growing popularity of King's Parade as a shopping centre; a war-time evolution; traders have to adapt to loss of undergraduates and impression of high-price goods; notes on traders: A.R. Crossman, Ryder & Amies, Rutherford & Clothier, A.W. Smith, Lily Masters, Tredgett – 16 12 06c, d

1917 12 26

Queues in Petty Cury assume alarming dimensions, one fainted. Margarine chief commodity sought and traders transfer stocks to Corn Exchange, 1,000 transactions took place – 17 12 26a

1918

Introduction of motor bus services after 1918 greatly enhances Cambridge as a county shopping centre [3.6]

1918 11 27

Ald. George Stace came to Cambridge in 1872, and was for some years with Mr. J. O. Pain in a drapery business. When Mr. Pain retired, Mr. Stace set up the business in Petty Cury with which his name has for so long been associated 18 11 27 CIPof

1919 11 19

F. Winton Smith's new food factory, Wellington House, East Road – detailed feature article – 19 11 19a ; formally opened – 19 11 26b [1.9]

1921

MacFisheries opened, sells bulk ice for hospitals etc [446.16.]

1921 04 06

Frederick Woor, Master Tailor, Sidney St, paid less than minimum wage to his women – 21 04 06c

1922

Fitzbillies established [1.13]

1922 02 11

Cambridge & district butchers association formed [2.8]

1922 05 20

“50 years ago Cambridge was notorious for its trading exclusiveness & backwardness, it was self-centred, localised, jealous of intruders & generally stuck in the mud. A vastly different state of affairs exists today... due in part to the introduction of multiple shops & up-to-date proprietors but even old concerns have changed. For three months of the year Cambridge is almost a deserted city & trade dwindles to a mere trickle, yet might be made a most attractive holiday centre & also splendid site for factories” 22 05 20 [3.8]

1922 06 03

MacFisheries ice factory fire, p5

1925 12

Sainsbury opening [4.2]

1927 03 03

Sir – I read of the sale of the old-established grocery and provision business of Hallack and Bond. It is regrettable that the ownership of another great business passes away from Cambridge. To many the name has been a by-word and a guarantee of quality and good service through the personal supervision of people resident in Cambridge. This must become a serious menace to the welfare of the town and all good citizens should avail themselves of the service ably rendered by locally owned firms - Loyal Citizen 27 03 03

1927 08 12

An outstanding feature in the reconstruction of our new premises at 2, Market Hill, Cambridge, are the windows which are unique for a grocery business and compare in style with a London west-end store. We welcome an opportunity of showing you a store fitted and stocked in the most complete and scientific manner and where prized traditions inherited from our predecessors (Messrs Hallack and Bond) are upheld and carried forward with modern equipment. Shoppers may actually see their coffee roasted and ground. International Stores, the greatest grocers in the world. Advert. 27 08 12

1927 09 01

Sir – I wish to protest against the almost intolerable nuisance caused by the beating of college carpets on “The Backs”, which is robbing not a few of us of all possibility of quiet thought and study. A vast number of visitors can hardly carry away an agreeable impression of a place where their ears have been so persistently assailed and affronted. Why cannot the Colleges do what is done by all the great hotels. The resources of modern science and ingenuity lie equally open to them. Why then these means of barbarism? – Thomas Thornely. c27 09 02

1927 10 17

Cambridge Co-operative Society opened its new model dairy at Sleaford Street. The manager, Mr J. Quincey said they were now retailing nearly 400 gallons a day. They served the purest and cleanest milk possible. “People say they want milk straight from the cow. But if they only saw the cleaning machine when it was taken to pieces it would surprise and probably stagger them to know the filth and dirt which came from the milk, even though they were getting the best milk from clean producers”. 27 10 17

1928 04 18

At the diamond jubilee celebrations of the Cambridge Co-operative Society the Chairman, Mr G.J. Golding, said he wondered what the people concerned with the little business in City Road, Cambridge, sixty years ago would think of the Society today with annual sales of £190,000, a membership of 16,000, 20 branches and 370 employees. Half the population of Great Britain, directly or indirectly, was now within the Co-operative movement 28 04 18

1929

Moons shop taken over by Joshua Taylor [27.9.7]

1929 01 16

Joseph Ashworth Sturton, principal director of Messrs Sturton Ltd of Fitzroy Street and a former Mayor of Cambridge has died at Bournemouth. The son of Joseph Sturton, the founder of the business 100 years ago who developed the land now known as Sturton Town, he was born above the shop and proved an industrious business man, opening branches throughout the region. In 1919 he purchased Thurston’s bakers and confectioners and soon added a café. Mr Sturton was one of the first in Cambridge to interest himself in the motor car and took up the commercial car in connection with his business. He was a prominent nonconformist and founded the flourishing New Street Men’s Bible Class. 29 01 16

1929 02

Woolworth's buy the adjoining premises of Mr Pain [2.5]

1929 05 09

Coad's shop opens CDN 9.5.1929 [3.14]

1929 11 29

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs Headley and Edwards of Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge, in voluntary liquidation, was told they had been trading under difficulties for some time. They experienced a period of prosperity just after the war but the last account to show a profit was 1923 and they had got into financial difficulty. A buyer had been found to take over the assets as a going concern and a new Company would be formed to carry on the business. CDN 19.11.1929.

1929 12 02

An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J. Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will harmonise with Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year CDN 2.12.1929

1930

1930 02 24

Theophilus Percy Gallyon, the well-known gunsmith, has died. He was head of one of the oldest Cambridge businesses, established by his great-grandfather 150 years ago. Born at the very address in Bridge Street where his shop still stands, he took over the business from his brother & will be succeeded by his eldest son. Deceased was recognised as a master of his craft and at one time indulged in shooting, a sport for which he turned out some first class guns. 30 02 24

1930 07 24

Mrs Elizabeth Haslop has been described as a woman possessed of splendid business acumen. She carried on her late husband's butcher's business in Silver Street Cambridge and was the last link with the well-known firm which has been in existence for nearly 100 years and will be carried on. In her earlier life she was well-known in the Mill Road district where a small shop near Tension Road was run in her name. 30 07 24

1930 11 22

Cambridge Co-operative Society opened a new bakery in Sleaford Street equipped with the most modern machinery. 500 sacks of flour a week arrive from their own private railway siding close by. They are lifted to the third floor and the flour passes through a series of automatic machines which mix and knead it into dough that is baked in steam-heated ovens. The confectionery department has a wonderful machine turning out a wide range of cake mixtures 30 11 22a-c

Co-op Sleaford Street bakery opening – 30 11 24

1930 11 22

A.E. Clothier, tailor, death – 30 11 22d

1931 04 30

Mr J. Sainsbury, head of the famous provision firm, opened a new residential club that will accommodate 15 young men. In a place like Cambridge it is difficult for a young man to get lodgings and this large house in Brookland's Avenue has been modernised and redecorated and is a model of its kind. The bedrooms, which have two beds, have a wardrobe and cupboard for each occupant; it has a room with facilities for games and reading and dispels any gloomy feeling about what used to be called 'living in'. There were few local firms who had made such provision for their staff. Many firms had a contributory pension scheme but they had decided against such a scheme. 30 04 03k

1932

Gordon Thoday fabrics start Sussex Street [10.2]

1932 01 21

King Street shoe repairer – John Motley – bankruptcy – 32 01 21a

1932 02

Death of Mr A.H. Miller of music firm [2.10]

1932 02 04

The Bankruptcy Court was told that the Autoservice Company based at Haig Road, Cambridge offered an automatic vending service using machines supplied by Pelpas and Uneeda Automatics of Edgware. When the debtor was ill the manager of the Uneeda Company, feeling the illness was a bluff, interviewed him in bed. He immediately got up, against doctor's orders. The proprietor had previously invented his own penny-in-the-slot machines but never gained patents for them. 32 02 04 & 04a

1932 02 16

The Deck family has played an important part in pharmacy and public life in Cambridge for 130 years. Isaiah introduced the custom observed for 80 years of firing rockets on New Year's Eve, Arthur made balloon ascents with his friend Henry Coxall, while Alderman Deck was chemist to the Prince of Wales while a student at Trinity. He presented his Royal Arms to the Corporation and these are now in the Cambridge police court. The business continues to thrive under Reginald, with a new optical department. 32 02 16b

1932 02 22

New Cambridge Industry (employing only local men). Same day dry-cleaning service by the new British wonder machine which cleans and actually strengthens fabrics leaving no smell. Special opening offer: suit, costume, coat or dress, dry cleaned, hand pressed, collected and delivered for three shillings. The Forum Cleaners and Dyers, Market Hill, Cambridge (Advert) 32 02 22

1932 06 15

Ebenezer Haynes, shoe maker – 32 06 15

1932 06 16

An 'automatic laundry' has been opened in Hartington Grove Cambridge. Dignitaries inspected the Forum Cleaning and Dyeing Company machines where several garments were cleaned and dried before their eyes in less than ten minutes. After cleaning clothes pass to a dusting wheel where they are tumbled and dried in a current of cold air before passing the eagle eye of a 'spotter' to the pressing room so that obstinate stains can be removed 32 06 16a

1932 06 18

The Stokesay Laundry of Histon Road is a happy hive of industry where women and girls work under ideal conditions in a healthy atmosphere. They have installed a wonderful ironing machine which is the last word in efficiency. The extensive drying grounds in a very large garden ensure final cleanliness and sweetness. 32 06 18 & 18a

1932 10 28

John Yeomans came to Cambridge at the age of 19 in 1857 and purchased the shop at the corner of Petty Cury and Sidney Street from Mr Lyons where he carried on business as a chemist for 40 years. He had a vivid recollection of events: he knew George Stephenson personally and was a passenger in the first railway engine to run in England. 32 10 28e

1933 02 02

The annual domestics staff ball at the Dorothy attracted 450 servants. Although the ballroom became on the crowded side, everybody was happy. Nothing is nicer than a good servant's ball and it was good to see so many heads of households present. Percy Cowell and his band was in a particularly bright mood and led a 'merry dance; with a varied programme. The great attraction was the fancy dress parade. 33 02 02

1933 02 09

Cambridge has lost an old-established tailor by the death of Mr Byron Thomas Wait of Mill Road. His father was a tailor at St Ives but Byron came to Cambridge 52 years ago and opened the shop in Hills Road. Thirty-five years ago he extended the business to the shop at 28 Mill Road and four years later to 100 Regent Street. Two of his sons are carrying on the business. 33 02 09b

1933 05 20

Augustine Crossman started as a tailor in King's Parade over 40 years ago. There he installed a novelty in the shape of a tie-knitting machine and this developed to such an extent that he came out of the outfitting business and started the A.R.C. Knitting Company with a factory at St Tibb's Row. From there it moved to Eden Street, Norfolk Street and then Abbey Walk. 33 05 20b

1933 05 27

Finch's Walk name and ironfounders – 33 05 27 & 33 06 03a

1933 06 03

W.D. Nicholes, Mill Road store refurbishment – 33 06 03

1933 06 14

George Bolton, furniture remover, death – 33 06 14

1933 08 26

Millers Music shop, Sidney Street – 33 08 26

1933 11 27

Joel Smart was the son of a Gloucestershire cloth manufacturer. Coming to Cambridge shortly after the battle of Waterloo he commenced business at 59 Bridge Street in 1826, removing in 1840 to Petty Cury and in 1853 to 11 Market Street. Here he purchased the clothing business of Watson Taylor who had been trading from early in the century. He took his son, Charles, into partnership, in whose family the business still remains. Such is the history of one of the oldest firms in Cambridge where customers will find all the latest materials and the most fashionable styles at keen prices. 33 11 27

1934 01 23

Robert Brown sold two million gallons 'Somerlite' lamp oil a year around Cambridge. He got oil from various sources, mixed it together and told the public that it had no equal. So when his sister-in-law, an oil and hardware merchant at Fordham, started selling oil that did not come from him under the 'Somerlite' name he took the case to court. Their vans both carried that name and there was a danger that people might assume the two were the same, he claimed. But the case was dismissed. 34 01 23 & 26

1934 05 15

Marks and Spencer's new shop will be opened on Friday morning. The premises have a frontage to Sidney Street. The ground floor space is devoted entirely to sales while the first and second floors contain stock rooms, offices and other accommodation for the staff of 60 assistants who have been mainly recruited locally. There is a dining room where staff can obtain lunch at a cost of sixpence. There will be no 'stunt' lines at opening and 90 per cent of the goods sold are of British manufacture 34 05 15 [1.2]

1934 05 29

One of the best-known Cambridge hairdressers Alexander Joseph Priziborsky was born in Cambridge 54 years ago. It was his father who founded the hairdressing establishment in Round Church Street about 1856 and on his death in 1905 his son took it over. He shaved his first customer when nine years old and built up a first class reputation, the majority of his customers coming from outside the town 34 05 29

1934 08 01

After a history of 100 years it is hardly surprising that there is a thorough tobacco atmosphere about the shop of Messrs Bacon Bros which has stood on Market Hill since 1805 and the news that it is to be pulled down with cause regret to many. A number of ledgers over 100 years old, containing fascinating information about the smokers have come to light including the original accounts sent to C.S. Calverley whose 'Ode to Tobacco' appears on the outer wall of the shop. A new shop will be built on almost the same spot. 34 08 01

1934 09 21

Messrs George Stace's new windows in his Petty Cury Arcade are absolutely the latest idea. They curve inwards to reduce reflections making the glass invisible. Spotlights inside, which can be given any colour, provide the perfect finish and one feels one has only to reach out and touch the articles. Showrooms upstairs have been reconstructed and one of the workrooms moved to make space room for the new arcade 34 09 21

1934 09 27

Hot Bargains at the great re-building sale at the Peas Hill Cash Drapery Stores. Household linens, blankets, dress and underwear fabrics at knock-out prices including Wigan sheeting, Jaspe bedspreads, Gent's fancy socks, Ladies artificial silk knickers (slightly fleeced) and interlock woven pyjamas. From college hire, 50 pairs of single bed sheets, once used and laundered, from 3/6 each. Six dozen heavy white Turkish Towels (one used and laundered) nine-pence three-farthings each. – Advertisement 34 09 27

1934 11 24

The old-established business of Messrs Robert Sayle has been acquired by Selfridge's Provincial Stores but the name remains, the General Manager remains and the staff remains – "I like the look of them and the merchandise is tastefully displayed", said H.G. Selfridge, junior. He studied at Trinity and was treasure of the Boat Club Ball in 1920-21 when it was held for the first time in a marquee at the college, instead of in the Corn Exchange. 34 11 24

1934 12 07

Barratt shoes have just opened their 126th branch at 6 Market Street Cambridge. When you consider that ten years ago they had fewer than 20 you must allow that they'd progressed. Some of the lines are stocked in no fewer than fifty alternative fittings. They are made in Barratt's own factory and sold only through their branches. From start to finish every detail is under their control and there are no middleman's profits – advert 34 12 07

1934 12 17

Arthur Colin Lunn was born over his tobacconist's shop premises in Bridge Street in 1896 and assumed control of his father's business founded nearly a century ago. His brother carried on the same trade in Oxford. When the business was turned into a limited liability company seven years ago he became governing director. Although one of the best-known business men in Cambridge he did not take a prominent part in either public or social life. 34 12 17

1935 01 12

We felt customers would like to know something about our dairy. Our cows graze on our fields at Chesterton, Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Shelford Bottom, the finest pasture in the county. They are thoroughly groomed and their udders washed before being milked using electrical apparatus at our Abbey Street premises. The milk is cooled and bottled without being touched by hand, then kept in a

cold storage chamber before delivery. The cream is separated daily. We guarantee early delivery twice daily to all parts of town. Arnold Brothers (established over 75 years), Abbey Street, Cambridge –advertisement. 35 01 12a & b

1935 03 07

S.A. Rolfe's wholesale confectioners and tobacconists business started 25 years ago in a very small way on East Road. Now it is the largest of its kind in the Eastern Counties with nine full-time travellers and 15 motor vans. New premises in Newmarket Road house an enormous variety of brands including chocolates from R.S. Murray and 'Classic' bottle sweets made by Messrs Parkes. Mr Rolfe was hailed as a hard-working and keen young business man who by sheer determination and grit had made his mark in his chosen trade. 35 03 07, 35 03 09 & a

1935 05 03

A number of shoppers at Messrs Robert Sayle's new store accepted the invitation of Mr J.W. Pretty to take morning coffee in the library, in celebration of the opening of the store after the improvements which have been carried out. These have made conditions very much better for shoppers: there is now twice as much sales room as before and the whole store has been opened up. The fact that it is now one of a chain means that values are better than ever before, and will remain so 35 05 03

1935 05 07

Joshua Taylor 'Six Reigns of Service' history published– 35 05 07h

1935 09 27

The opening of Bacon Bros' new premises on Market Hill will forge a new link in a unique chain of tradition. Old ledgers record the names of customer who became famous in every walk of life including the Prince of Wales, the future Baron Rothschild and both Alfred and Charles Tennyson. The new interior fittings are made of cedar so that the shop is like a giant cigar box with many relics of bygone days. Verses from the 'Ode to Tobacco' by Charles Stuart Calverley which featured on the wall of the old building in Rose Crescent until its demolition last year are to make their reappearance in the form of a bronze tablet. 35 09 27b & 28a

1935 12 05

John Whitehead, 65, has been in the fruit and vegetable trade all his life. He started hawking goods on a barrow and then with a horse and cart. About 40 years ago he took a shop in Fitzroy Street and struggled to bring up a big family – he had 13 sons. It was difficult to obtain goods during the Great War but afterwards got a motor lorry and in 1933 went to London for goods for the Christmas trade. They were brought to a garage in Cambridge from which they were stolen. Then a run-away horse smashed up his van and the lorry ran into a lamp post. 35 12 05b

1935 12 05

Walter Nicholas told the court he'd started as a confectioner at Little Downham. He knew nothing about the business and only took £8 a week of which thirty shillings was profit. So he added a little vegetable round, buying from neighbouring farmers. He had a motor van and later a lorry for £75, paying by instalments. As business was poor he came to Cambridge in September 1934 and started in the wholesale vegetable business, but lost more money. He disposed of his lorry for £10 and paid off some of his debts. Then he was refused a potato licence, which was a major reason for his failure. 35 12 05c

1936 01 03

With the enlargement of the drapery section, the Co-operative Society's premises in Burleigh Street comprise the finest Departmental Store in Cambridge. On the ground floor, the Butchery has finest home-killed and imported meat, Grocery sells bread and confectionary, Outfitting has made-to-measure suits while Furnishing has three-piece suites and mirrors. Every Department is equipped in the most modern manner with lifts to all parts of the building. 36 01 03d & e

1936 01 30

Benjamin Rayment was first apprenticed to the shoemaking trade at a shop in Trumpington Street but decided to try his fortune elsewhere. He walked to Birmingham for work before entering the hat industry in Luton when the first hat-blocking machine was introduced from America. He returned to Cambridge and carried on business in Burleigh Street as a straw and felt hat maker for close on 70 years. When the straw hat industry was in its prime he used to supply 'boaters' to most of the University shops in the town. He had a wonderful memory with recollections of the Crimean War, the Chartist Riots and the great exhibition in Hyde Park and died in his 100th year. 36 01 30

1936 03 25

Roger Roe carried on the antique business in St Andrew's Street in succession to his father and many times had the honour of waiting upon royalty, dies – 36 03 25c

1936 03 26

Modern living with its flats, bungalows and almost stream-lined houses, can no longer accommodate the fine old heavy furniture of our ancestors. Today the cult is for comfort and utility in limited space so Robert Sayle has equipped their basement to show this new furniture. Here you can see complete rooms set out with wallpaper decoration, carpets, curtains, lamps and all the etceteras which make a house a home. There is even a little nursery that is wallpapered with a new type of American cloth which is washable and most hygienic. What home-proud woman will want to refuse such advice? – Advert 36 03 26

1936 04 09

Important Notice. Peak's furnishers, King Street, Cambridge have built up the name and reputation for selling reliable goods. We give an expert furnishing service with 150 bedroom, dining and drawing room suites always on show. Don't be misled. We have no branch shop and no connection with any other furniture store. – Advert 36 04 09b

1936 04 30

John Whitaker, the well-known Cambridge antique dealer who has died in his 92nd year, was a craftsman of skill and taste, a carver of wood and stone and many buildings were enriched by his work. He had travelled extensively in India, the Cape, America and the Continent and also had a great knowledge of local history. The business of a dealer in antiques never ceased to appeal to him and he could discuss items with shrewdness and judgment. He was Bohemian in appearance, whimsical and entertaining and with an optimism unbounded. 36 04 30

1936 05 12

Marks & Spencer tender £26,000 for 10-11 Sidney Street as a general stores – 36 05 12a

1936 07 09

Much regret will be felt at the death of John Morris Bull, the dairyman. Born in Landbeach, he assisted his father who was village smith before buying a dairy business from Mr Thompson of Russell Street, Cambridge in 1891. During the War he was one of the organisers of the Dairyman's Association that ensured a regular supply of milk. A life-long Liberal, he had a good record of public service on the Board of Guardians and County Council. He leaves a widow and three sons 36 07 09a

1936 07 28

A tapestry showing a panoramic view of Windsor Castle that was produced as a personal Silver Jubilee gift for the late King George V and Queen Mary is now on view in London. It represents the very finest modern English weaving and was designed and woven by the Cambridge Tapestry Company in their workshops at Thomson's Lane. The weavers were Ellen Nichols, Sylvia Corby, Ethel Lander, Dorothy Pettit, Elsie Blunt and Alice Haylett working under the direction of Hilda Lister. 36 07 28a

1936 09 03

When John Brown took charge of Freeman, Hardy & Willis shop on Market Hill in 1897 boots were cheap, and needed to be: "I can remember country women coming in with a dozen children and saying their husbands only earned twelve shillings a week". When he started brown boots were so scarce that people stopped and gazed at someone who sported a pair in Peterborough. Most had hob nails in the sole – even those for infants - and women wore elastic-sided boots – it didn't matter what they wore, because you never saw their feet. The shop was enlarged into premises next door in 1905 36 09 03a

1936 10 17

Two old Churchwardens pipes over the string course of the parapet of Messrs Almond's shop at 11 Sidney Street, now being demolished, are a reminder that it was once used by Joshua Lee for the making of clay pipes. Mr A.T. Potter recalls that there had once been a large kiln in the centre of the shop in which the pipes were baked. There is also a very fine old lead head to the down pipe which has cross clay pipes embossed on it. 36 10 17b

1936 11 06

A. Mackintosh, ironmongers – advertisers feature – 36 11 06a

1936 11 07

Messrs W.T. Thrussell and Sons, the well-known Cambridge firm of shoemakers, held a dinner in honour of Mr F.H. Lucchesi's 70th birthday. 'Fred' has been with the firm for 56 years and recalled many amusing incidents connected with the 'good old days' of shoemaking. Mr E.W. Brett, an employee of 38 years' service also spoke of the early days of the firm. The speeches were interspersed with musical entertainment 36 11 07

1936 12 05

Bacon's tobacconist history – 'Advertisers' series – 36 12 05

1937 01 30

Peaks Furnishers of King Street was commenced in 1924 by Mr W.H. Peak and by dealing in reliable goods, together with a sound service, he has rapidly built up business. The premises have been extended and improved from time to time and a very large floor space is now devoted to the display of floor coverings and furniture. Consistent advertising in the CDN for a number of years has helped considerably to make this firm so widely known. 37 01 30f

1937 02 12

Mr G.H. Jacob specialises in his tailoring for ladies and gentlemen and holds Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in addition to thirteen trade diplomas. He offers a complete gentlemen's outfitting service. The shop at 34 and 35 Burleigh Street was established in 1859 by Mr P.S. Stevenson and taken over by Mr Jacob in 1912. In 1926 the business was extended by the opening of a branch shop at 23 St Andrew's Street where extensive enlargements and alterations have just been completed. 37 02 12, 37 02 24b

1937 03

Annual Business review: description of activities:

Dorothy Café, Morlin's, Greene King, W.H. Pratt, Rendezvous cinema, Bowes & Bowes, J. Sanders, Murkett Bros, Otto Wehrle, Provincial Homes – 37 03 05

Arnold Bros, A.H. Careless, Dolphin's shoe repair, Whitmore, English Bros, W. Delph, S.A. Rose, Cherry Hinton Granaries, Coulson, S. Ginn – 37 05 05a

Smart tailors, Sennitt's game, Hayward cycle, Marshall's, F.J. Prime, Bird's Chemical works, Flack & Judge, Banham, Leys Laundry, Bell & co travel agents, Hallen's motor cycles – 37 03 05b

Allen & Welcher painters, H. Tredgett florists – 37 03 05c

Miller's music, Cam electrical, Cambs Permanent Benefit Building Society, George Stace costumiers, Trustee Savings Bank, Hyman & Cox opticians, Edw Harper funerals, F. Winton Smith butchers, Austin coal, Cambridge University Gas Light Co – 37 03 05d

Cambridge Brush, Cambridge Secretarial training school, J. Holliman furnishers, F.W. Drake medical herbalist, Cambridge Steam Laundry, A Sidney Campkin pharmacists, F.M. Wilson insurance, Collins & Clark antiques – 37 03 05e

Williamson's furnishers, Robert Sayle, J. Ward cycle, Riding School, Dale's Brewery, Hockey auctioneers, Cambridge Billposting Co, Electric Wiring & Repair, Cambridgeshire Motors, New Cambridge Tyre co – 37 03 05f

Ivett & Reed monumental masons, Evans Flanders chemist, E.E. Harmer income tax, Layton & Leech masons, H.J. Gray sports, S. Rampling surgical appliance, Cambridge Health Spa, George Bolton removal, Kwick cleaners, Wm Farren furrier – 37 03 05g

1937 04 23

Wm Scott and Son, art decorators and painting opened their new premises in James Street. On the site of the disastrous fire which gutted the old site in July last has arisen one of the most up-to-date works equipped with the very latest plant and materials for high quality motor-body and van repairs, cellulose spraying, painting, lettering, joinery work etc. They are specialists in glass & sign writing, plumbing and repairs to residential and business property and have achieved distinction for the high quality of all work. – Advert. 37 04 23e

1937 05 10

Remarkably fine silken embroideries have been prepared for the embellishment of the thrones to be used at the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The King's throne is adorned with the Royal Arms while the Queen's also carried her newly-granted Bowes Lyon arms. The Cambridge Tapestry Company was entrusted with the work of embroidering the backs of the thrones. All the preliminary drawings on linen were made in Cambridge and the work was completed at the company's premises at Ickleford, near Hitchin 37 05 10

1937 05 29

Bull's diary has cowsheds behind shop in Hills Road – advertisers – 37 05 29a

1937 07 24

Messrs J. Johnson and Son's premises at 51 Sidney Street, usually referred to as 'Johnson's Shirt Shop' is probably one of the oldest outfitters in Cambridge, the premises being first opened in 1880. In 1922 the business was acquired by Mr A.G. Mole and is now under the sole charge of his son, Cecil. Much of the success of this specialised Men's Outfitting business has been due to consistent advertising in the C.D.N. 37 07 24

1937 10 08

Matthew's new bakery in Cherry Hinton Road has a complete absence of machinery in the confectionary department as it was staffed by excellent craftsmen trained specially for the job. Night bakers work from 10pm to 5am when the confectionary bakers and delivery men start. There is a special oven for making Vienna bread with a thermospray boiler operated by gas which manufactures wet or dry steam that is introduced under pressure into the dough, ensuring a crisp crust. An ultra-violet ray lamp, similar to those used in hospital, floods the flour before mixing and the dough before baking. From the ovens the bread is loaded into racks which are placed bodily into electric delivery vehicles 37 10 08b

1937 10 23

A.W. Morlin, ironmongers and builders' merchants started 1909 – 37 10 23

1937 11 04

Cambridge Co-operative Society's new store on corner of Histon and Windsor Road serves the needs of this new and populous district. The attractive up-to-date building has been designed with a dignity worthy of its position; the elevations are faced with Portland Stone and multi-coloured red bricks, forming a frame for the blue and gold mosaic panels incorporating the Society's name. The shop

fronts are of bronze with oak entrance doors and polished granite stall board risers. The floor of the butchery shop is covered with marble mosaic and the grocery shop with rubber flooring 37 11 04a

1937 12 04

Cambridge was a prosperous town but much of the trade depended upon the students and members of the University. The colleges are becoming self-contained so the need for lodgings was drying up. On Sunday it is like walking along the streets of a lost city with the shop fronts in darkness. Cambridge should appoint a publicity agent to attract visitors and conferences, said Mayor, Ald Briggs. A great deal of progress is due to the two or three large light industries who have made their home here and it needs more 37 12 04 & a

1938 03 04

The Health Foods and Herbal Store of Green Street has been established several years and specialises in non-fresh foods of many kinds; unrefined cereals, wholemeal flour, biscuits and cake; choice fruits, nuts, honey & oils – in fact everything nearest to nature and consequently the cheapest for man, woman and child. Now they have bought a speedy little delivery van to distribute their goods to customers. Some of their products however travel by post almost to the ends of the earth 38 03 04e

1938 05 30

S.A. Rolfe's wholesale tobacconist and confectioners business began in a very small way in East Road, in 1911. Now it is the largest in the Eastern Counties employing nine full-time travellers. In March 1935 they moved to Newmarket Road where the stock is kept in perfect condition and its 20 motor vans can be loaded completely under cover. They cover a territory reaching as far as Clacton, Frinton-on-Sea, Peterborough and Luton conveying tons of tobacco every day. All leading brands are stocked including R.S. Murray (chocolates and confectionary) and Messrs Parkes 'Classic' boiled sweets – Advert. 38 05 30b

1938 07 22

Sussex Street is the most striking of the many improvements made in Cambridge during the past few years. Those who recall the dark, narrow lane of bygone days, with its overhanging roofs on either side and its small ill-lit shops, will hardly recognise the imposing street that has emerged from the builders' hands with its line of modern shops and shop-fronts. It is now Cambridge's latest shopping centre. 38 07 22

1938 10 29

The West End comes to Cambridge. Paris House, the beautiful new fashion rendezvous in Sussex Street caters specifically for the High Class trade. The Inner Court, richly executed in Indian Padouk and Australian Walnut, displays the most lovely garments, becoming the rendezvous for ladies of taste. To Car Users – our Commissionaire will attend to your car with pleasure while you are in our salon – Advert 38 10 29b

1938 11 29

Mayfair, Cambridge's new fashion specialist opened its salon at 75 Regent Street, transforming an empty shop into a revelation of smartness and beauty. Mannequins displayed a collection of the loveliest prevailing fashions comprising a galaxy of dresses grave and gay, day and evening gowns, tailored suits and winter coats. They will supply only exclusive models with special attention to smart styles for the fuller figure. 38 11 29

1939 02 23

No.7 Petty Cury, comprising a double-fronted shop in the occupation of Messrs Lipton, the upper floors providing part of the bedroom accommodation of the Lion Hotel was offered for sale by auction. Shop property in the heart of the shopping centre of Cambridge seldom came to market by public auction and formed an excellent purchase for occupation, speculation or investment. It would be very difficult to find a much better investment. Demand was especially keen in Cambridge where

the best shopping area was limited owing the centre being 'horseshoed' by college buildings. But it failed to reach its reserve and was withdrawn at £11,750 (about £650,000 today) 39 02 23a

1939 05 26

The packing room of the Forum Cleaning Works, Hartington Grove was destroyed by fire that started in a machine in one of the cleaning rooms. This was put out with the aid of a fire extinguisher. The clothing was then put in one of the tanks and was run through a press room. When some of the staff reached the door, however, the handles of the tank burst, and the whole lot went up in flames; there was some danger of the fire spreading to a 500-gallon tank of white spirit. 39 05 26 CIPof

1939 08 11

Ben Mills was one of the pioneer workers of the Cambridge Co-operative Society. He joined in 1873 & appointed part-time secretary in 1882. He served as secretary until 1910 39 08 11 CIPof

1940

1942 03 26

Simper, rope and tarpauling maker, New Street – was one of few people who could spin hemp two-handed – 42 03 26

1942 09 24

A.E. Stearn started as grocer in East Road in Jan 1893; in 1908 wholesale side transferred to Fitzroy Street where carried on by sons. – 42 09 24

1943 07 03

Beales tailors & robemakers, Sidney Street: association ends after 143 years with retirement of B.W.Beales [1.7]

1947 08 30

Flack & Judge grocers for 50 years passes to Matthew & Son 47 08 30

1948 02 28

Death of Harry Davenport last of Cambridge's Victorian & Edwardian tailors, worked for Thurlbourns, Trinity Street [1.8]

1949 08 27

Cambridge Trades Fair Association hold Festival, 66,000 visit [1.10]

1950

1950 03 01

Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market St, Cambridge this year celebrates their 200th anniversary. Senior member at present, whose period of service numbers just on 60 years, is Mr George Heath, who has worked his way up and is now responsible for the grocery, household goods, painting and hardware department, both wholesale and retail. His long service and keen interest in the firm have earned him a directorship. "I should they are the kindest people you could possibly work for. There is a long family tradition behind them", he said.

1950 08 05

The biggest trades show under canvas organised in England opened in Cambridge today. The value of the exhibits displayed is estimated at nearly £1m. and the show can be regarded as the first big demonstration of the many industrial activities and specialised trades for which Cambridge has been famous for so hundreds of years c50 08 25 76,722 visit, "will be the memory of 1950"[1.10,1.12]

1950 09 04

Cambridge's own Olympia-in-miniature opened on Midsummer Common. The Cambridge Trades Fair Summer Festival attracted over 15,000 people on one day alone. In opening the fair the mayor said: "We in Cambridge know that at one period anything in the way of localised industry was frowned upon. Today I am thankful to say that old spirit has died and we can be proud of the industries which have crept up over a long period of years" 50 09 04

1950 09 27

The news that Mr Douglas Nicholes is disposing of his well-known drapery and outfitting business in Mill Road will be received with regret by local people who admire the pioneer spirit and enterprise of a family concern. There are still people who can remember the early days of what was then a small lock-up shop surrounded by fields – known as Feke's Meadows - on both sides of the roads on the town side. It is 68 years since Mr W.D. Nicholes founded the business. In those early days they were the largest wholesalers of foreign goods in East Anglia. The retail side was developed later and menswear has always been a speciality 50 09 27

1951 01 29

"More central parking urged, people go shopping in other towns" - (headline) [1.19]

1951 03 10

Modern machinery has already done much to revolutionise food manufacture, and the tremendous advances it has brought to bread-making – from the old days when a baker kneaded dough all night in a hot, often unhygienic bakehouse, to today when bread can be made between mid-day and midnight, entirely by machine and practically untouched by hand, was demonstrated by Mr George Hawkins at the new automatic plant for bread making installed at the Model Bakery, Parsonage Street, Cambridge 51 03 10

1951 03 24

Cambridge Plate Glass Mutual Insurance Company centenary, started 25 March 1851 at King's Head Inn, Sidney Street [1.15]

1951 04 30

The woollen products of Messrs I & R Morley Ltd have a world-wide reputation and the label is accepted for value, hard wear and reliability. But perhaps people do not associate the name with Cambridge, which is on the whole, not a particularly industrial city. Yet they do have a factory in Abbey Walk, which produces as many as 135 dozen garments a week. At present 120 workers are employed but a plan is under way to turn it into a modern up-to-date knitwear factory

1951 04 30

Messrs Spillers celebrated the official opening of the Company's new Central Laboratories in Station Road, Cambridge, built to replace a laboratory destroyed in a bombing raid in London four days after the outbreak of the last war. Work went on at Birkenhead and then in 1947 it was decided to build and erect a new building at Cambridge, started in 1949. The mill has been renewed and remodelled on the very latest lines, designed primarily for milling home-grown wheats 51 05 30

1951 07 02

The announcement of the closing down of Messrs George Stace Ltd's Petty Cury store marks the closing of yet one more old-established firm that has filled a special niche in the local fashion trade for many years. The name had come to stand for a good, solid, middle class trade. It was not necessarily a smart one, but it met the needs of a definite section of the community. It catered for the matron, and for the essentially well-to-do family of both town and county. Its place is to be taken by a big, modern multiple tailoring stores; the original 'Alexandra House', a small single fronted shop was built in 1869 51 07 02

1952 06 05

While 26 assistants searched for smoke they could smell in their living quarters above the premises of Messrs Robert Sayle in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, a thick pall poured out of one of the windows on the top floor. When the alarm was raised a score of them dashed downstairs and through the shop carrying their belongings with them. One assistant, Miss Ann Todd, said: "I thought of all of my clothes and I struggled down from my room with masses of them. I wasn't going to leave them behind". As it was Thursday afternoon there were only about 30 people in the premises at the time. Staff organised a chain of buckets until the arrival of the Fire Brigade.

1952 09 01

With a fanfare from six scarlet-suited trumpeters Cambridge's third Trades Fair on Midsummer Common was opened. Immediately afterwards the Mayor went to the Interflora stand and sent a basket of roses by air to the Mayor of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Three local firms, Messrs Biggs of Peas Hill, Messrs J. Rogers of Newnham and Messrs Ridgeon's of Sussex Street, pooled their dollar allocations to provide the roses for America. In the first six hours 12,642 people paid for admission

52 09 01

Trades Fair visitors are down, at 78,000 52 09 20 [1.17]

1952 09 06

The Cambridge Co-operative Society's new bakery in Sleaford Street, Cambridge was opened and more than 100 people were shown round by Mr V. Grimes, the bakery manager. It is possible to turn out 1,200 loaves an hour. At no point is a draught, the enemy of good bread, allowed to enter the building, doors being surrounded by hygienic glass brick screens. It is the fourth bakery; the first was built in 1872, the next in 1888 and then in 1930 a "model bakery" was built in Sleaford Street. But the Society grew at such a rapid pace a new building became necessary with the latest machinery to turn out the bread 52 09 06

1952 11 12

"East Road traders face bankruptcy" - 91% of properties are in short life or no life categories - 100 years old & poorly constructed. Propose using Norfolk Street as local shopping centre & keep East Road for traffic route [2.6]

1952 11 17

Mr George Hawkins, who has been the sole owner of G.P. Hawkins Ltd has announced that he has disposed of his entire shareholding to the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The firm was founded in 1838 in Fitzroy Street, which is still one of their shops. At the beginning of the century the late Mr G.P. Hawkins opened a shop and café in Sidney Street. In 1929 these premises and the adjoining site were extensively developed resulting in the opening in 1931 of 'The Dorothy' as it stands today.

1952 11 20

Discuss possible shopping centre Fitzroy Street. Co-op have acquired Hawkins & may take opportunity to move from Burleigh Street into centre [2.7]

1952 12 02

Mrs Dale (Ellis Powell) of BBC fame will have something different to note in her diary when she opens the Cambridge Co-operative Society's new block of three shops on the corner of Whitehill Road. This imposing site accommodates an up-to-the-minute food store surmounted by dwellings. The three shops comprise a wet, dried and fried fish department, a butcher and a modern 'self-service' grocery with counters for the sale of rationed goods, confectionery and tobacco.

1952 12 08

The familiar voice of Ellis Powell – of Mrs Dale's Diary fame – was heard coming over a loudspeaker instead of a radio by a large crowd waiting outside the new branch of the Co-op on the housing estate at Whitehill Road, Cambridge. Mrs Dale, hatless, but looking warm in a fur coat over her royal blue dress, declared the new store open. She was then the first customer of this modern self-serving grocery store which also has butchery and fish departments attached. People flooded in under the

neon strip-lighting and, picking up baskets, made their way round the well-packed shelves, which seem to include every grocery imaginable. 52 12 08

1953 05 29

Albert Butler, proprietor of Messrs Haslop & Co, butchers of Silver Street, Cambridge, retired after 53 years in the butchery business. He recalled going to market to buy his first bullock – the dearest one he ever bought - & remembered when families ordered 8 lb joints and rump steak was 1s 2d a pound. He prophesied the end of meat rationing within a year but thinks the trade would find itself in a serious position: while boys were not entering the business as they used to, even those who did received no slaughtering experience. “I don’t know where our slaughtermen of the future are coming from”, he said. 53 05 29

1953 11 11

A new agency on the lines of the successful “Universal Aunts” in London has opened in Cambridge. It is fully prepared to undertake any job, large or small, including travelling arrangements for children, transport to dancing classes and catering for their parties. The care of invalids will also be undertaken for certain periods, as well as shopping of all kinds. Any domestic emergency will be catered for and there will be a bachelor mending service. After Christmas interior decoration and catering of all kinds will be undertaken. Charges will be moderate.

1953 11 27

A Cambridge brush manufacturer was ordered to disclose a ‘secret formula’ for dressing hair for brushes, which had been used by his father. He had started business on his own in School House Lane in 1947, making brushes for one wholesale firm on terms which proved unprofitable. He became insolvent, but had kept no books. He’d been offered £1,500 for the ‘secret formula’ and should reveal it to the Bankruptcy Court as there must be some value in it 53 11 27

1954 01 22

A tenancy variation of a shop on King’s Parade, Cambridge, is a rare occurrence and rarer indeed is the appearance of a new trade to this world-renowned street. From being used as premises for University outfitters A.R. Crossman, no.12a will become K.P. Camera Shop and promises to become as well-known as its parent, Campkins of Cambridge. The firm was established in 1800 and has remained in its present premises at Rose Crescent since 1867 54 01 22 c

1954 07 07

The old-established department store of Laurie and McConnal of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge has been purchased by the London firm of Shirley Bros, but they say the public will not notice the changes. The store was opened by Mr James Laurie in 1901 and in recognition of advice given by his friend Mr McConnal he decided to use both names as a trading title, though only members of the Laurie family actually held shares. It prospered as an ironmongers shop but following a major fire in 1902 was rebuilt as one of the biggest departmental stores in East Anglia, increasing its scope to include almost everything for the home and garden. 54 07 07

1954 11 01

Miller’s music shop has transformed its Sidney Street Cambridge premises with an up-to-date, spacious and extremely attractive front of an entirely unique design. The windows are non-reflective and the lower ground floor, which is so popular with record lovers but previously almost completely hidden way, now has a mirrored view from the street. You can now pause in your shopping and look in the window, whether it be the television set your husband has promised the family for Christmas or one of the many different instruments on display. CDN 1.11.1954

1955 03 16

The Belfast Linen shop is celebrating its jubilee. 50 years ago a young man of 23 cycled into Cambridge with £100 in his pocket and an ambition to start his own business. He was Harry Nichols. He took an empty shop in Regent Street and Belfast Linen Warehouses had begun. It was not all easy

going and there were times when he could not even afford to buy a new suit. It is still a family concern. Royalty, famous hotels and colleges are among his patrons and the R.101 airship on its ill-fated flight had sheets and towels supplied by the firm. 55 03 16a

1955 08 09

Cambridge abattoir suggested – 55 08 09b

1955 09 02

In opening their enormous new showrooms in King Street Cambridge the firm of H.W. Peak have passed another milestone. Everything for furnishing a home is here in astonishing array. Apart from furniture there is electrical equipment such as vacuum cleaners and washing machines together with televisions and Hi-Fi sound equipment. They started just under 50 years ago selling second-hand furniture and opened a large branch at King's Lynn in 1937 55 09 02b

1955 09 03

Fireworks and flying saucers celebrated the opening of the new showrooms of H.W. Peak in King Street, Cambridge. Giant rockets were released from the roof of the floodlit and gaily decorated building and the city was 'bombed' with balloons released from aircraft. Each contained a numbered card and winners will share in the distribution of £200 worth of furniture. 55 09 03

1955 10 15

Two bothers, both of whom carry on house furnishing business in Cambridge, brought their fourth High Court action against each other. A woman customer had gone to buy a refrigerator, saw a shop named Peak's in King Street and assumed it was the same as Peak's Furnishers of Fitzroy Street where she had an account. It was delivered to her house but then she went to Fitzroy Street to pay for it. The judge said this was a case of the utmost triviality and it was surprising it had not happened many times before. 55 10 15

1955 12 21

Employees of Messrs R. Buttress & co, shirt makers, tailors and robe makers, gathered in their workroom for a presentation to Mr J. Hewish who is retiring at the age of 83. He has been a tailor for 65 years; he was apprenticed at Newmarket where he helped to make riding breeches and started in Cambridge for fivepence an hour. 55 12 21

1956 02 21

Laurie & McConnal's warehouse catches fire [2.12]

1956 03 08

The lease of 'The Spindle', a little shop selling scarves, woollen items and glass animals in Downing Street, Cambridge has been extended. But the rent will increase from £150 to £260 a year. Miss Maud Pattinson said she took the premises in 1935 and converted storage space above the shop into living accommodation. During the war years – 'the American invasion' – she made a good profit. But it was a 'poky little place and Downing Street was a 'dead street' for shopping 56 03 08

1956 03 24

Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d [2.13]

1956 07 14

Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the

redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1956 09 19

Millers music shop has been reshaped, redecorated and reorganised from top to bottom. There are spaces where walls used to be and the radio department is where the pianos were. Frank Chacksfield, the television and recording star, was the first person to make use of the special record booths built into the record departments downstairs. There is now a 'browsery' where 'discophiles' may browse through records. Long playing records are played over high fidelity equipment and there is a section for 45 rpm records with remote control. 56 09 19 & a

1956 11 02

W. Holliman and Sons, the well-known Cambridge firm of removal contractors have again chosen a Morris vehicle for their fleet of pantechinons. Every vehicle since 1926 has been a Morris, proof of their faith in this make. They are also house furnishers and their showrooms, the King Street Furniture Galleries, were the first 'Walk Round Showrooms' in Cambridge, dating back to 1923 when they moved from Mill Road. 56 11 02

1957 01 10

A Cambridge Christmas card publisher told the Bankruptcy Court that he went into business in 1951, designing cards that proved very popular. Next year the cards were despatched by the printer direct to his customers. But some were sub-standard and he lost orders. In 1955 he hired a printing works in Baldock but the press broke down. Then the bank restricted his overdraft. His skill as an artist exceeded his ability as a businessman. 57 01 10a

1957 02 08

The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service at Brooklands Avenue has doubled its strength since 1954 and has now moved to Queen Anne Terrace. It was set up to investigate the tremendous amount of waste of fuel through faulty plants, poorly insulated buildings or by untrained stokers. They help bring industrial plants up to high standards of fuel utilisation enabling savings of 15 per cent during 1955-56. 57 02 08

1957 11 31

A new Supermarket in Fitzroy Street was picketed by shop workers protesting against late opening. Fine Fare has a policy of opening until eight o'clock on Friday nights for the convenience of the public and the shop was full of people. But the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers see this as leading to a return to the twelve-hour days shop assistants used to have to work. 57 11 31c [2.18]

1958

Woolworths extensions & Boots begin new construction [5.3]

1958 01 06

Percy John Todd was apprenticed to the scale and weighing machine trade at the firm of Headley and Edwards. In 1931 he started Todd's Scale Work on East Road and was the senior partner until his death. In his younger days he played for the Cambridge Victoria and Cambridge Hotspurs Football Clubs and ran with the Albert Institute Harriers. 58 01 16a

1958 01 24

W.J. Adkins, butchers and provision merchants announce the opening of their new modern abattoir at Cherry Hinton with stunning pens, humane slaughter, mechanical handling of carcasses and hygienic condition. Adkins will purchase and collect animals from farmers at market prices, accept commissions from butchers and sell direct to retailers. (Full-page advert with photos of slaughter hall and carcasses) 58 01 24

1958 12

Suttle, Tailor, closed following death Dec 1958 [446.11.5]

1958 03 06

The owner of Searle's Stores in Searle Street told the bankruptcy court he was making a profit of £8 a week until July 1956. Then the business started to decline. People moved from the area to council estates and he could not compete with the prices of cut-price shops. In addition his rates had increased from £5.6s.3d to £20. 58 03 06a

1958 06 14

Two former employees of the Hide and Skin Market Company of Cambridge appeared in court accused of the theft of 'sheep runners' (intestines used for making sausage skins). They had taken 10 sacks of runners, hidden them under the seat of their lorry and sold them in Letchworth for ten shillings. One said he was short of money, he felt envious when other friends went for drinks and had cigarettes and he could not afford them. The other said his wife had recently had a baby and this had 'gone to his head'. 58 06 14b

1958 07 22

Mr Walter Pearson was one of the first milk roundsmen to be employed by the Cambridge Co-operative Society and took out the first load of milk after the dairy was opened in 1927. In those days it was quite a small affair comprising seven or eight rounds, now it has 51 rounds and an annual gallonage of 2,100,000. He likes the modern electric vehicles but says the old horse-drawn ones would follow him down the street whilst he made his deliveries. He was presented with a set of pipes, pouch and tobacco. 58 07 22a

1958 07 24

Should there be shops on the corner of Coldham's Lane and Vinery Road? Two local shopkeepers, H. Wilson and H. Sykes, said there was no room for more shops in the area. Mill Road, East, is quite a substantial shopping centre; there are 80 to 90 shops at present with more planned. The houses in the area were built between 1928 and 1940 and that site was bought in 1924 for possible development as a public house. The owners had tried for shops, houses, flats and garages. Now they wanted a chemist's shop, fish shop and newsagents. 58 07 24 & a

1958 07 25

Cambridge Milk Bottling Works washes 65,000 bottles every day. Out of the empties come notes, thimbles, teaspoons, dead flowers and even bicycle brake blocks and dead mice. People use them as containers for paraffin, paint brushes, home perm solutions and creosote. Another tiresome business is the punching in of foil tops, squashing them down into the bottle. Some people hoard them: 672 were found in a house in Chesterton High Street and dozens are found down wells. 58 07 25

1958 08 09

Messrs Coads' department store in Sidney Street will cease trading on September 27th with a special feature sale prior to closure. It is intended to replace the Cambridge store, which has limited accommodation, by the acquisition of premises nearer London. The site has been acquired by F.W. Woolworth as an extension to their existing store which adjoins it. 58 08 09a [2.19]

1958 10 18

Millers may be the oldest music shop in Cambridge. They started trading as music and musical instrument dealers about 1886 when the late A.H. Miller joined the firm. Now they have taken over the business of Messrs Murdoch. In the 1920s Murdoch took over Leavis and Bedwells who had a retail shop on the corner of Glisson Road before moving to Regent Street. 58 10 18

1958 11 15

Miss Lake's toy shop closes – history of shops – 58 11 15

1959 02 12

Work has begun on greatly increasing the area of Messrs Boots the Chemist's premises in Sidney Street by the demolition of the old Essex and Suffolk Assurance Company buildings. It will double the width of the frontage and the shopping area behind and provide twin entrances on to the street. The staff accommodation will be more than doubled and the facilities vastly improved. Boots believe that the staff cannot be expected to look after customers properly unless their own interests are properly served by the company: contented staff means contented customers. 59 02 12b & c

1959 02 26

Gordon Thoday has specialised in fabrics for over a quarter of a century. At the new contemporary shop in St Andrew's Street modern display counters give the advantage of self-selection, or if you prefer our staff will be happy to serve you from the immense and exciting variety of the newest British and Continental fabrics. Our Sussex Street shop continues as usual – Advertisement 59 02 26

1959 03 02

The Wellbrook Laundry on Girton Road was originally opened for the benefit of Girton College in the days when they sent the clothes by horse and carts, so it was fitting that the Mistress performed the formal opening ceremony of the new dry cleaning department. After wards visitors viewed the laundry which included the sorting of customers' work by tape recording and sheets automatically folded by machine 59 03 23c

1959 03 12

To progress from a back kitchen near the Rex to a cowshed in Abbey Road is not a very great step, but finally to settle in a brand new building in Occupation Road is indeed a larger stride. This is what the Homewash Laundry had done and this was the cause of wonderment expressed by the many trade and press journalists from London at the opening of the Laundry by the Mayoress of Cambridge, who was a long-standing customer in its less contemporary days. 59 03 12

1959 07 02

Exclusive shoemakers for over a century – that is the proud tradition of A. Jones and Sons who came to Cambridge as successors to Thrussells of St Andrew's Street – a name known for courtesy, quality and value. Their fine new shop is the latest of 35 Jones branches and stocks Airborne, Joyce, Rayne, Scandies and Van-Dal shoes for ladies – advertisement 59 07 02

1959 10 01

Mitcham's Golden Jubilee Celebration celebrating 50 years at Mitcham's Corner, 1909-1959. To mark this occasion we have had extensive alterations and decorations to our fashion showroom where you will find 'up to the minute' fashion ranges of coats, suits, dresses and separates. We will present two-shilling 'Jubilee Celebration Cheque' on all purchases of £1. Bring the children – there will be a balloon for them. Advert 59 10 01b [2.3]

1959 10 30

John Line new wallpaper showroom – 59 10 30c

1959 11 04

In the past few years the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street area, with its easy access, ample car-parking facilities and huge variety of shops, has become increasingly popular as Cambridge's most convenient shopping centre. Many of the shops were formerly in ramshackle buildings, combining timber and corrugated iron with a minimum of brickwork, often built over the front gardens of houses which had their ground floors converted. But now these have made way for up-to-the-minute shopping premises and improvements are constantly going on. 59 11 04 & a

1959 11 17

Co-op new self-service super food store, Burleigh Street - 59 11 17

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 20

Supermarkets are undercutting smaller shops – an identical tin of coffee varies by as much as sixpence. But Mr L.C. Cherry of Milton Road has banded together with several other grocers to buy goods in bulk, enabling him to give customers special offers. A high percentage of orders are now taken over the telephone, credit is given and goods delivered. At Sutton Mr L.F. Lindsell has seen no decline since the opening of a supermarket at Ely: the customer saves a bus fare, get good service and can always come back and complain. Several housewives praised the supermarket but others said it tempted them to buy rather more than they first intended 60 01 20

1960 01 23

Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c

1960 02 18

The first escalator to be installed in a Cambridge shop is in position at the extension of F.W. Woolworth and Co. Ltd. and is all ready to go into operation when the new premises are opened at the end of June. It will convey customers up to the sales floors relieving congestion on the stairs which will remain for energetic customers and 'down' passengers. It is among a number of innovations in the building which will include a shed for 120 cycles on the roof and an unloading bay in the building itself so that lorries can drive in and unload directly on to lifts. There will also be an air conditioning plant, deep freeze and delicatessen counters, Formica walls and an asbestos-lined ceiling. 60 02 18 [5.2]

1960 04 01

Macintosh and Sons, the long-establish firm of ironmongers have moved their showrooms from Cambridge Market Hill to Mill Road owing to the congestion in the town centre. "The days have gone when farmers could pull up with their horse and trap to purchase instruments", they say. From the new warehouse and instrument shed they sell anything from a hand tool to a combine harvester costing over £2,000. Nearby stands the foundry that was in use until 30 years ago where they made lamp standards and ploughshares for the Town Council. 60 04 01a

1960 05 05

A Cambridge tailor recalled that in the mid-1920s undergraduates wore sports jackets and grey flannel trousers with 27-30 inch bottom, now the average was 18. Some 80 per cent of undergraduates today are studying on grants and wear duffle coats and sloppy-joes, tartan windcheaters and jeans. But the demand for suits, although much reduced is still steady. A man in his third year will buy a dark grey suit to mark the start of his career. 60 05 05

1960 06 17

Peak's Furnishers Ltd of Fitzroy Street have opened large premises in the new covered shopping arcade in Bradwell's Court. The electrical appliances section is well-stocked with the leading makes of washing machines, spin-dryers; demonstrations are a daily event and prompt delivery guaranteed. It also has a number of model kitchens fitted right down to the last detail and attractive displays of bedroom, lounge and dining furniture are beautifully displayed in room settings. 60 06 17a & b

1960 06 30

Joshua Taylor is taking over the Arts Theatre to celebrate their 150 years of business. The production of a play telling their story has been put in the hands of Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer and dramatic critic. It is in the nature of an undergraduate revue, not unduly concerned with advertising the merits of the firm. There will also be window displays with contemporary costumes showing the range of clothes they have sold over the years 60 06 30a

1960 09 05

Cambridge Steam Laundry on Cherry Hinton Road was founded in 1880 making it the oldest in Cambridge. Coldham Model Laundry purchased a motor van in 1910 becoming the first with motor transport. Ely and District Laundry is housed in a modern, spacious building and employs 85 personnel handling 52,000 garments a week. It has canteen facilities with free tea twice a day and 'Music While You Work' – a great favourite with younger employees. Homewash is the 'bouncing baby' of local laundries, starting very humbly on V.J. Day 1945 when two recently-demobbed ex-Servicemen started to 'take in washing'. 60 09 05a b

1960 10 14

Romsey has gained new shopping facilities with the opening of the Co-operative Society's Supermarket in Mill Road. It occupies practically the whole block between Catharine Street and Thoday Street and is a complete transformation of their former grocery, butchery, pharmacy and cottage property. The shop front features anodised aluminium metal work while the four check-out stations are finished in an attractive shade of plastic. 60 10 14b

1960 10 21

New Co-op supermarket, Mill Road – 60 10 21aa

1961 05 09

The whole of 'The Broadway' on Mill Road is being put up for sale. It runs from Cavendish Road to Sedgwick Street and is the largest shopping area in the eastern half of Cambridge. It was built 23 years ago and consists of 14 shops with eight flats above. The London company that owns the site says it is a good investment: the properties currently realise £2,848 a year in rents which will increase to more than £4,000 in three years time. 61 05 09; The Broadway, Mill Road sold for £35,000 – 61 05 16

1961 06 25

Roe Antique shop Christ's Lane closed due Bradwell's Court, moves Downing St [5.5]

1961 07

Lion Hotel in Petty Cury purchased July 1961 by Jack Cotton & Chas Clore for City Centre properties; largest single property transaction in Cambridge; by 1964 hotel closed & just bars open [446.16.3]

1961 07 01

The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1961 07 03

Stanley Rose's old-established butchers is one of the few properties in Petty Cury remaining in private hands. He acquired the premises in the early 1930s, moving from a site in Market Hill which was then being demolished for make way for the new Guildhall where the family firm had been established for three generations. He is now retiring and the business will be transferred to W.J. Adkins, the local firm of butchers. The premises have been acquired by Messrs Peter Lord, the shoe specialists. 61 07 03d

1961 08 02

We never swank. But we are proud to know that during our 64 years of trading we have acquired the reputation for being the suppliers of the finest quality home-killed meat and imported lamb in

Cambridge and district. Years ago we displayed meat outside our shop, today the interior counters and shelves are stocked with everything that is good in meat, groceries and provisions. Our prices are right & we give a free and regular delivery service. A.E. Page, 62 Cherry Hinton Road – Advertisement 61 08 02

1961 08 10

Last summer's bad weather was the culmination of the vicissitudes faced by an Italian ex-prisoner of war. Gaetano Risitano, who traded as 'Guys', bought an ice cream business on Mill Road but problems started when he became involved in litigation with the previous owner. This was followed by a bad season in 1960 and profits were not big enough to support his outgoings so he put it up for sale. 61 08 10

1961 08 30

Miss M. Pate began learning shorthand in the 1880s by taking down family conversations and sermons. Then she got a job copying manuscripts at Downing College which is where she first saw a typewriter. She joined an office for typewriting and shorthand, taking over the business in 1900. After 1918 every member of the University wanted his work typed including Rupert Brooke who cycled in from Grantchester each morning with the next chapter of his dissertation for King's College. She was awarded an Honorary Cambridge MA and now spends many hours preparing an enormous scrapbook of material 61 08 30

1961 08 31

Prziborsky's barbers shop in Ram Yard is to be swept away by demolition and redevelopment. The site is to be incorporated into a new road leading to Park Street car park. It was founded in 1879 by Count Prziborsky after he left his position as barber at the Imperial Austrian court. The family connection elapsed in 1934 when the Count's son died and Mr Frederick Osborne took over the business. A ladies' hairdressing side catered for Girton and Newnham girls but was discontinued during the war 61 08 31a

1961 10 04

Austin Beales and Coote and Warren opened their new fuel oil terminal and solid fuel depot in Clarendon Road, the most modern in Europe. Oil arrives from Mobil's refinery chiefly by rail and is discharged into three main storage tanks before being sent by road tanker over a wide area. Solid fuel deliveries are concentrated in Cambridge itself. Each year 45,000 tons is unloaded from rail wagons by two cranes with 65 wagons of solid fuel arriving each week. 61 10 04b & c

1962 02 01

Macintosh and Sons of Market Hill, Cambridge, one of the oldest ironmongery firms in the country, has been sold to an unknown purchaser. The firm's earliest records date back to 1688 when the business was sold to the Finch family. They kept it going for 200 years before it was taken over by William Macintosh who'd been in business in Sidney Street. A major redevelopment scheme is proposed for the site after their retail premises close in September. The wholesale, agricultural and workshop departments will continue to trade from 349 Mill Road 63 02 01a [3.2,5.6]

1962 04 21

Fitzroy Street endorsed as a shopping centre [3.3]

1962 04 05

The new slaughterhouse in Cheddar Lane, originally a two-storey builder's store, can deal with 60 to 80 cattle units and will be used for the wholesaling of fresh and chilled meat. The premises, provided by Mr R.S. Speechley, a wholesale butcher and slaughterer, replace one built by his father 60 years ago which has fallen behind modern standards. The business was taken over by the Ministry of Food from September 1940 to July 1954. 62 04 05b

1962 04 27

In 1851 Mr Alfred Bodger, 'Hosier, Glover and Shirtmaker', founded his Gentlemen's Outfitting shop opposite Holy Trinity Church. As business grew he added a tailoring shop and in 1934 moved to the present site on the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street. In 1946 the ready-to-wear site was enlarged. More expansion followed in 1954 and now internal alterations are complete allowing a full range of goods to be shown. But friendly and personal attention is always available – Advert 62 04 27b

1962 06 04

Mackay engineering firm celebrate 50-year jubilee – 62 06 04

1962 06 07

Shipowners' Refrigerated Cargo Research Association new research lab opened, Newmarket Rd 62 06 07

1962 07

Miller's music shop opening [4.3]

1962 08 11

Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravensett Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1962 09 15

Herbert Robinson's electrical premises with a large double frontage in Regent Street have been sold to a Messrs Skertchley, the cleaners and dyers for a price in the region of £100,000 (c£1.7m today). The firm has been selling the remaining electrical equipment at reduced prices with two-year old television sets down to £15 (£263 now). On two occasions the shop together with the adjacent garage and Llandaff Chambers have failed to reach the reserve price at auction 62 09 15

1962 10 13

Pratt, Manning and Co of Trinity Street, Cambridge's oldest bespoke tailoring firm, is to close. It was established in 1865 by Thomas Pratt and acquired by Ald H.T. Wing in 1897. Until the First World War about 80% of the trade was from undergraduates who ordered three or four suits at a time. Today students on grants cannot afford high prices for hand-made clothes and they rely on professional and business men for their trade. Customer's patterns and records will be transferred to their London office and a cutter will visit Cambridge at regular intervals. 62 10 13a

1962 11 30

"It's a dying trade this. I can remember the days when there used to be 15 of us down here and we never used to go home until eight in the evening", recalled Arthur Starr, a tailor. "We used to do a lot of undergraduate trade: we worked hard for about seven months, then we'd have the rest of the year free. The only thing I do now is jackets. I won't touch trousers and waistcoats. I've been doing it for 50 years. I always sit cross-legged. It's the only way to do it. I rest sitting like this, you now. I even sit in bed like it" 62 11 30

1962 12 17

Adkins Corner. For the convenience of those who prefer out-of-town shopping with good parking facilities, W.J. Adkins have opened a self-service store by the Perne Road island in Cherry Hinton Road where you will find the same quality – the best – which has made Adkins famous for English and Scottish meat, sausages, pies, cooked meats and other provisions. You pay less for the best – and you get Green Shield Stamps as well – Advert 62 12 17c

1963 01 07

J.G. Horne is no ordinary garment manufacturing business. Tucked away in a building at the top of a wooden staircase, amidst brightly-coloured materials and the clatter of sewing machines, 20 girls are employed making articles which range from college scarves to rowing shorts, academic gowns to schoolboys' blazers. Since it was established in 1927 it has concentrated on the club and colours trade, producing 7,000 scarves each year. Many are made by 'out-workers' and each stripe is individually added. But gowns, blazers and sportswear are made in the premises in St Barnabas Road.
63 01 07a

1963 05 15

Weatherheads taken over by W.H. Smith after 93 years [5.8,10.9]

1963 05 21

The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1963 06 11

Miss Minnie Pate, University Typewriting and Secretarial Service – appreciation – 63 06 11a

1963 06 29

Co-op supermarket Milton Rd is largest suburban one in county [5.9]

1964 03 04

Tesco to open store in Regent Street in former Herbert Robinson garage site – 64 03 04

1964 04 13

The Cambridgeshire Deep Freeze Company was formed in 1952 in adapted buildings on Pound Hill, then extended into pre-fabricated cold rooms nearby. Soon however the whole of the Pound Hill area became part of a redevelopment plan and they moved to a new site at Girton during the severe winter of 1962-63. It accommodates bulk quantities of raw materials such as raspberries and blackcurrants for national processors but one cold room is sub-divided into lockers which can be hired to private individuals for the storage of game or garden produce. 64 04 13b & c

1964 04 28

Matthew & son closes after 134 years, cannot afford traditional grocery service from large city centre site at present rentals [9.4]

1964 04 30

A Regent Street trader has lost 78 per cent of his usual turnover since parking meters were introduced, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce was told. A survey of over 30 shops showed the average loss in turnover as 45%. There should be a reduction in rateable values and compensation for businesses which are forced to close. Meters should be closed down and a return made to unilateral parking supervised by wardens. But the Parking Committee chairman said that if motorists used the meters to the full they would get most of their customers back 64 04 30

1964 05 22

Peaks new carpet centre, Fitzroy St – 64 05 22

1964 06 11

Fitzroy Street area being knocked flat so no local customers to pop in ... rely on weekend shoppers cars [446.11.8]

1964 06 11

Laurie & McConnal closed branches Ely & Wisbech but keeps wholesale round; lost some floor space but still largest area in Cambridge [446.11.8]

1964 06 27

London Co-operative Society are to close their creamery at Ditton Walk because they have not got sufficient milk in the area to keep it going since Cambridge Co-op now want an extra 1,000 gallons to mean increasing population. The creamery supplied milk only to London areas. Many of the staff of 22 have been there for 30 years 64 06 27a

1964 08 27

Parking problems in centre have encouraged people to do everyday shopping Fitzroy/Burleigh ... lined with small personally-run shop [446.10.1]

1964 10 22

Petty Cury - only three locally-owned businesses left [446.16.3]

1965 01 14

Smart & Son, the outfitters in Market Street, has been run by the same family for more than 150 years. But now they are to move to Mill Road and the shop sold – 65 01 14

1965 03 11

Ward's move to new premises in Burleigh Street marks another stage in the long history of a firm which started when Jonas Ward made a living mending bicycles in East Road. For some time they made the famous Crown cycles, one of which was ridden from Cambridge to Monte Carlo in 1930. They also supplied carrier cycles and box tricycles. Later they diversified into wireless, gramophones, washing machines and baby carriages and became one of the first to stock televisions in 1938. – 65 03 11a, b

1965 04 04

Walker & Walker, Market Hill tailors since 1849 close, served Edward VII when Prince of Wales, undergraduates no longer use them [13.2]

1965 07 30

Laurie & McConnal modernising the whole of their shop frontage in Fitzroy Street; new display windows will replace the arcade-type ones there since 19th century; "faith in City Road as new shopping centre – 65 07 30a [13.8]

1965 10 19

City centre shops to be allowed to open six days a week - end of compulsory half-day closing for central shops with two or more principal trades – 65 10 19a [5.1]

1965 10 28

New parking restrictions affect business, Fitzroy Street [446.10.1]

1965 11 01

'Filth from demolition keeps shoppers away' Fitzroy Street [446.11.8]

1971 04 03

Jack Baldry, mineral water manufacturer – profile and history – 71 04 03

1966 08 15

"A number of large multiples have eyes on Fitzroy-Burleigh area" [5.12]

1966 08 19

Eve shopping report says centre shopping will become congested by 1981, need 2nd centre [5.11]

1966

First fashion boutique - Pussy Cat, Alexandra Street [4.5]

1966 09 10

Eaden Lilley men and boys clothing shop in Market Street is for sale; will move to main department store; have owned since 1907; have recently bought Smart's outfitters' shop – 66 09 10

1968

Co-op request permission build computer centre & HQ on industrial land off Newmarket Road – 71 08 10

1968 04 04

Walker and Walker, Market Hill tailors, to close; been there since 1849 and departure will leave only Bacons as original member of Colonnade group of shops; have served Edward VII when Prince of Wales; blame expiration of lease, rising rates and fewer old-style customers – 68 04 04

1968 11 19

Marks & Spencer extension opens; came in 1934, extended 1937, 1938 and 1966. Present expansion on site former Millers Music shop – 68 11 19

1969 03 19

Milletts outfitters, St Andrew's Street damaged by fire which threatened a whole block of shops and offices; may have been raided – 69 03 19, 19f

1969 05 17

Baldry's move to a new factory in Harvest Way from Gold St; started in 1923, first to use all-automatic crown cork sealed bottles; took over Cambridge Soda Works and in 1925 acquired important contract for mineral waters with a local brewery; began bottling cider in 1930 and in 1935 extended range to confectionary, cocktail sausages, pickles and groceries. Bought Sawston Aerated Water Company – 69 05 17a, b, c

1969 06 06

Sainsbury's want two self-service shops to replace their antiquated premises in Sidney Street, one in Trinity Street, the other in the Kite – 69 06 06, 06a

1970

1970 03 09

Moore Pianos yet another victim fast-dying family firms, lack skilled craftsmen [9.6]

1970 04 01

Otto Wherle jewellers shop clock may disappear as shop closes after 125 years – 70 04 01a

1970 07 31

Co-op increase Burleigh Street floor area by 50%; introduce divi stamps 70 11 11 [13.4]

1970 10

Co-op open for discount warehouse for people wish to purchase in bulk on industrial land, Newmarket Road.

1971 04 03

Jack Baldry, mineral water manufacturer – profile and history – 71 04 03

1971 06 25

Sunday opening rejected by City council [5.16]

1971 07 26

Harry Cooper opened furniture shop in Newmarket Road about 50 years ago; would pull down shutters for fear bullocks would get in – 71 07 26

1971 08 10

Co-op warehouse, Newmarket Road becomes retail as Beehive One – 71 08 10

Co-op drive coach & horses through local government policies with Beehive One 1969 asked for discount warehouse for people wishing to purchase in bulk, opened Oct 1970 & becomes retail - Beehive One; wins public inquiry to continue 1972; apply for another site 1974 which approved after inquiry 1977) [13.4] [6.6]

1971 10 01

Thrussell & son 131 year-old boot firm closes, one of last firms in bespoke shoemaking trade, undergraduates stayed with them [27.10.7]

1971 11 26

Chamber of Commerce strongly disapprove of shops giving discounts to students, but 'students could retaliate by taking their business to London & leave some city shops with hardly any customers' [26.3, 369.23.6]

1971 12 07

Mackay plans to extend engineering factory and build more shops and offices on East Road blocked – 71 12 07a

1971 12 07

Problems of where to put extra shops – reflections on last eight years – 71 12 07, 71 12 08, 71 12 09, 71 12 10b

1972 01 27

Co-op which drove coach & horses through local government policies with Beehive One 1969 asked for discount warehouse for people wishing to purchase in bulk, opened Oct 1970 & becomes retail - Beehive One; wins public inquiry to continue 1972; (apply for another site 1974 which approved after inquiry 1977) [13.4] [6.6]

1972 03 10

Sainsburys are planning a major supermarket development on a four-acre site at the corner of Coldham's Lane and Brooks Road, Cambridge. The group seeks either to build a supermarket with a petrol filling station, four shops and parking for 355 cars, or a supermarket with four shops and space for 390 cars Sainsburys, whose city centre supermarket is expected to open in July, describe their new proposed development as a "district shopping facility". "We believe that edge of town developments are the thing of the future" said a company spokesman. "Cambridge needs two Sainsburys, one to serve the centre needs and one to serve the district shopper. This one must have plenty of parking. We would sub-let the shops and filling station and the parking development would serve adequately the whole development" 72 03 10

1972 03 23

First sex shop, Go-Go, (closed by police after 6 months 1973) [8.14]

1972 06 09

Dorothy sold for £800,000 [14.4]

1972 08 01

Sainsbury's new shop opens on Matthews's site sell old shop for £615,000 [4.4, 14.2]

1972 11 09

Marcade opened East Rd - 6 days a week enclosed market, 100 stalls (destroyed in fire 1975) [9.6]

1973 01 17

Plans for several 'out of town' shopping complexes: Marshall's want 10 acre complex Newmarket Rd, Tesco apply hypermarket Milton Road (rejected) but Government overrule city to allow Sainsbury's appeal for Coldham's Lane [6.1]

1973 04 06

Mr Jack Baldry, chairman of Cambridge's last remaining soft drinks factory died yesterday at the age of 71. He started as a mineral water manufacturer in the city 50 years ago. When the company was started it faced competition from 32 firms in the city. Initial output was 100 dozen bottles a day, but business increased and four years ago a new plant was built which enabled an output of 400 dozen bottles an hour on each of its two units 73 04 06

1973 07 13

Latest small shop quit Hills Rd, squeezed out when rent shot up £1,000 pa [446.13.5]

1973 09 21

Huge rent rises shock Cambridge shopkeepers, Trinity Hall & Corpus raise rents by up to nine times [6.2]

1973 11 28

Trinity Hall raise University Camera rent £600-£3,500, Colin Lunn £500-£4,700 - 'do not gross that much in year; "college Rackmans"; but sale empty shops in block for £130,000 & £150,000 & seek fair rent of 5% market value [446.14.1]

1973

Parry Lewis report suggests Trumpington as site new shopping centre [7.4]

1973 04 26

The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area 73 04 26

1973 05 03

The government has overruled the Cambridge city planners and given Sainsbury's the go ahead to build a large supermarket and shopping complex in Cambridge. Last autumn planners rejected an application to build on what used to be a precast concrete factory site at the Brooks Road - Coldham's Lane corner. Now the Department of the Environment has granted permission. There is little doubt that city planning officials are embarrassed by it - because it cuts sharply across their own proposals to safeguard the council's Burleigh Street shopping re-development project 73 05 03

1973 08 27

The second oldest business in Cambridge, G.P. Jones, the grocer of Trumpington Street closed down at the weekend. They were established in 1623, three years after the oldest business in the city, Bowes and Bowes. Now the old-world grocery shop, famous for their blends of teas and statuesque tea jars, will become a fine art shop. Mr Sidney Jones looks back with resignation to the days when the shop

had its own tea blending room before the war and produced over 20 blends. He said, "It was inevitable that the grocery had to close as our regular customers became fewer and fewer. More people have come in to try and buy the jars and old furniture of the shop but I'm not parting with it for the moment 73 08 27 [8.10]

1973 09 21

Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will 73 09 21

1974 07 18

Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually "coming home to roost" in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary's Passage – only a stone's throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew's Street will still remain in business 74 07 18 [7.13]

1974 08 23

Millers Music centre moves Sussex Street (founded 1856, moved Sidney St 1966) [9.3]

1974 12 03

Traffic came almost to a standstill in Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, as queues built up for the newly-opened Sainsbury's supermarket and freezer centre. By 9.15 the car park, which holds nearly 400 cars, was almost full and queues had formed outside the door. After Mr John Sainsbury had opened the store the eager shoppers converged on the packed shelves and crowds formed round the plentiful supply of sugar 74 12 03 [14.3]

1974 12 11

Co-op apply for another site, Coldham's Lane 74 12 11 (approved after inquiry 1977) [13.4] [6.6]

1975 02 14

Andy's records shop opened [7.15]

1975 02 15

Experimental closure in centre, close Kings Parade, Sidney Street, St Andrews St; tea-party marks closure King's Parade [17.11] 2nd stage - one way Emmanuel Rd, Parkside, Parker St brings chaos 75 05 02 & abandoned 75 06 11 [17.14]

1975 07 17

Advert: An open letter to the citizens of Cambridge. We, the traders in the centre of Cambridge, have served you for many years. Thanks to ill-considered action by our elected representatives in stopping the free and unrestricted flow of traffic through the city centre we find that our livelihood is being threatened. It is a fact that without a city centre which is alive and throbbing the city will die. By taking trade away from the centre the city fathers have betrayed the trust we have placed in them. Let us make 1975 Cambridge Conservation Year and protest against the creeping paralysis which is being forced upon us by these out-of-date idiots – Cambridge City Centre Action Group 75 07 17 [17.15]

1975 09 01

Stallholders at the Marcade, East Road, Cambridge, were today counting the cost of a blaze which gutted the indoor market on Saturday night, destroying more than £100,000 worth of stock. The fire

was first spotted at about 11.45pm and within half an hour the market was a raging inferno as clothes, antiques, records and household goods went up in flames and asphalt and glass sections of the roof began to cave in. The Marcade was opened two and a half years ago and many of the stallholders were just beginning to build up a profitable livelihood 75 09 01

1975 12 03

Lion Yard opening supplement

1975 12 04

Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. The city council's Labour leader, Coun Peter Wright, spoke of the 'dissension' which still existed over the complex

1976 01 09

Doubts over Kingsbury on Coral Park Estate - problems parking [27.9.2]

1976 02 25

When Texas open the door of their new super-store at Coldham's Lane on Saturday, Cambridge will have the largest Do-It-Yourself centre in East Anglia. Spurred on by the success of their year-old store which took over from Peaks Furnishers in Fitzroy Street, Texas are sure that Cambridge shoppers will make extensive use of the new premises, which are packed with all kinds of goods for the handyman 76 02 25 [10.4]

1976 03 11

A new store, the Talk of the Town, is to open in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge in the building formerly occupied by Peaks Furnishers. The store is divided into individual sections, some let to local traders & some rented to national companies. An Elizabethan Tea Room complete with period furniture and fittings and a wedding dress section are on the top floor. The store has special design features such as log cabins for changing rooms in the fashion section and thatched roofing for the farm produce section 176 03 11

1976 05 05

'City traders who have lost business as result of traffic restrictions ... will just have to accept it' [26.48.18.4]1

1976 12 02

Co-op appeal for second site "Fitzroy Burleigh no nearer solution than in 1952" [13.5]

1976 12 17

A storm of protest followed the building of a line of office blocks in Hills Road, Cambridge, about three years ago. Public meetings were organised and people claimed the character of the area was being ruined, good housing lost and small shops demolished or forced out of business. Most of the offices replaced large terraced houses of little architectural interest. But the busy main road was not an ideal site for housing and several were no longer private homes. The new buildings are individually of quite a high standard, but they appear completely isolated and out of character with the shopping area. They need something to break up their long facades and link them with the variety and bustle of the shopping area. But the offices have injected a new source of life into the area; already a bank and several eating places have opened up, presumably to catch the lunch time trade from the offices 76 12 17

1977 02 04

Every one of four generation of the Reynolds family is a past, present or future "rock king". They are Mr James Robert Reynolds, aged 85, his son Jack, his grandson John and his great grandson James

Robert, seven. Jack still makes old-fashioned brown rock – square, not lettered - in a tiny plant at the back of his shop in Newmarket Road, Cambridge which he mans seven days a week.. He joined his father when he left school at the age of 14. There have been “rock kings” in the family for at least six generations. “It would be nice to see it go on – and every one of them a ‘J’” he said. 77 02 04

1977 02 17

“Lion Yard rents jumped enormously with result that most small local concerns were priced out of the market leaving the brigade of high mark-up multiples - Golden Egg, Dixon’s, Van Allen, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 & £18,000 pa rent ... the variety of shops reduced; if Kite ... then identical effect could occur. Leader of city council Powley feels best rate of return is one of commercial facts of life ... believes influx of national multiple stores into Cambridge will be only short term growth ... [15]

1977 02 17

What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur. 77 02 17

1977 02 17

“Small city traders under siege” [6.4]

1977 03 22

Cambridge & District Co-operative Society’s plan to expand the Beehive complex, which was turned down by the county planners, has been given the go-ahead by the Department of the Environment. The scheme, using the former Cadbury-Schweppes warehouse near Coldham’s Lane will provide an extended shopping space, a garden centre and leisure goods sales centre. The Inspector said that as there were still no definite plans for the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street redevelopment the Beehive scheme would meet some of the shopping need without detriment to the city centre. 77 03 22

1977 06 27

Tesco opened Bar Hill, doubles in size 1983 [14.7]

1977 07 02

Dorothy continental delicatessen closes, last part Dorothy restaurant, Dorothy taken over by Co-op 1952 [8.4]

1977 09 14

At 2.00 am while Cambridge slept a solitary light shines in Belgrave Road. Master baker Roy Markillie has arrived at the family bakery. His aim – to turn out 4,000 loaves in time for the bread queues that inevitably form outside his shop at 9 am. All his working life he has been an independent baker and so isn’t affected by the strike that has crippled the big bread firms. He doesn’t relish the thought of tripling his normal production rate – it simply means he will have to work flat out for the next eight hours. At 9 am the bread goes on sale – rationed to one loaf for each person 77 09 14

1977 10 04

The Cambridge department store Laurie and McConnal in Fitzroy Street is to close in December. Indecision over plans for the Kite area redevelopment is the reason, said Mr Anthony Fraiss. “We have tried everything we know to get something moving in the Kite, and while the council is now at last seeing sense we cannot afford to wait the two years before anything actually happens. As a small family company are paying penal rates.” The business was established nearly 100 years ago. 77 10 04

1977 10 05

The sudden news of Laurie's closure has come as a shock to the City Council team involved in drawing up the Kite plans. Council leader, John Powley, said he was "very sorry indeed" and could well understand their frustration at the indecision. "Gradual renewal of the area, as some people want, just will not happen and will lead to a speedy decline of the whole area. A satisfactory scheme must be produced as speedily as possible. Constant delays are not good for the area, for the people of the city, or for Cambridge as a whole". 77 10 05

1977 10 05

The news that Laurie and McConnal's department store is closing will have come as a surprise to most people. But to anyone who regularly used the store it was only a question of time before they succumbed to the inevitable. Even at the height of the shopping day you could be the only potential customer in any one department. It had 50,000 sq ft of selling space, spread over five floors to service, heat, decorate and keep full of merchandise and the passing trade had dropped off dramatically as so many houses have been knocked down and food shops have disappeared from the Kite area. 77 10 05

1977 10 08

More shops in the Kite area will be forced to close unless something is done quickly to rejuvenate the area. A number of stores have been teetering on the brink for some time and could go out of business. This has been caused by all the little ginger groups, all pushing for their own things. They hack and maul among themselves and all they succeed in doing is to cause the sort of intolerable position that Laurie's found itself in. It is all very well saying the Kite should stay exactly as it is. But it cannot. It has changed markedly over the years and is still changing. It either has to be redeveloped in some fashion, or it dies. 77 10 08

1977 10 14

Mitcham's, the Cambridge department store, is to close after 68 years. Mr Charles Mitcham converted a house in 1909 and opened up the store. It spread into adjoining buildings and today sells almost everything but furniture. The shop was sold when Mr Mitcham died during the war and was taken over two months ago by a Manchester-based insurance group. The manager said: "It is more than just a shop closing. It is part of the city about to vanish" 77 10 14

1977 11 11

A Cambridge tailors, James Neal Ltd, which has been in Cambridge for 107 years, has been taken over by another tailors which is even older. The firm which has bought out the Trumpington Street business is Ede and Ravenscroft which started trading in 1689. It specialises in ceremonial and academic robes and is a leading manufacturer of wigs and legal wear. 77 11 11

1978 01 19

Laurie & McConnal's department store in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, opened its doors for the last time as the auctioneers moved in, just over a month after closing. Between 200-300 people milled around the five floors as the left-overs of almost 100 years of trading went under the hammer. Most of the faces were strangers, but a few of the old employees called in just to pay their respects. The sale will strip the building down to its last box of light bulbs – even part of a tin of toilet soap was in the catalogue. According the agents the building itself has attracted a few offers around the asking price of £250,000, but no-one has signed anything yet. 78 01 19

1978 03 21

The new Beehive home interiors centre opened in Cambridge by the Co-operative Society is unique in Britain. With more than 25,000 square feet of space, home interiors are laid out in authentic room settings and the Co-op has gone up-market. There is a four-piece suite which costs a cool £1,000. They hope to supply all the goods on show from the stock carried in the ground-floor warehouse and people will be able to hire roof racks or vans to get it home if their cars won't take it. It has a children's cinema so that parents can leave their children occupied while they discuss furniture with the sales staff. 78 03 21

1978 07 29

Laura Ashley, one of the fastest rising fashion and fabric business in the world is coming to Cambridge. They are taking over the ground floor of what was the Turk's Head restaurant. The rest will become separate eating areas. The Granary in the cellar will offer international cuisine, the first floor restaurant will be based on English cuisine and the Pasta Kitchen on the top floor will feature an a la carte menu. It will be one of the few English businesses to offer hot foods late at night in Cambridge. 78 07 29

1978 08 11

Boots close Mill Road branch [7.8]

1978 09 20

Loker & co, started East Rd 1861 to close, concentrate on wholesale side business [8.8]

1978 12 14

Cambridge Co-operative Society was fined for Sunday trading at the Beehive Shopping Centre. The Society, which has opened its garden centre every Sunday since spring said: "Our competitors will still be trading just outside the city; all we have done is over the same service other garden centres do, and other councils turn a blind eye." It had opened after consultations with planners who welcomed the prospect of a garden centre occupying this then derelict piece of land; if it was stopped a great deal of harmless leisure activity would be spoiled for thousands of people. 78 12 14

1979 03 05

The closure of the Allied Bakeries' plant in Sleaford Street, Cambridge with the loss of 200 jobs means the end of bread making on a site which was poised to celebrate its golden anniversary. For a long time it was owned by the Cambridge Wholesale Society until it sold its interest in the sixties to F.W. French. In 1971 it became part of Spillers but last April they sold off this side of their business and Allied British Foods moved in. They gave a guarantee of a year's employment provided there were no disruptions but when the bakers went on strike the plant stood idle for many weeks. It has operated at a loss from then on. 79 03 05

1980

1980 01 10

Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocers for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner 80 01 10

1980 05 20

Rose Crescent new shops 'best planning gain for long time' [446.16.7]

1980 10 07

J. Ward & Sons close Burleigh Street to concentrate on Bradwell's Court; opened East Rd 1890s, made bikes, 1930s produced own wireless 'Wards three-valve', late 30s became one first country sell black & white tvs [10.12]

1980 12 04

The age of the microchip has taken all of us by surprise but now sons and daughters crave for the latest computer game, digital watch or radio-controlled car. Since Tandy came to Cambridge five years ago they have found rapidly-increasing demand in the home electronics field and have now divided their Emmanuel Street operation into two shops. One will house a veritable treasure trove of hi-fis, tv games and intercoms appealing to the young 80 12 04b

1981 02 18

Percy Wing's shop has been in business in Clarendon Street, Cambridge, since 1912. A grocer's and off-licence, it sells all sorts of things from Chelsea buns and bundles of firewood to apricot wine and John Smith's beer. It's the sort of shop where customers can still hold weekly or monthly accounts and have their orders made up and delivered. One customer has had an account there since 1914. Young customers ask for advice and recipes, elderly customers come in for a quarter of a pound of butter or a couple of rashers of bacon. On occasions they have sold a single egg at a time. 81 02 18b

1981 04 10

You might suppose that the Cambridge Pianola Company is a dusty relic of the 19th century, but it was started less than five years ago. Pianolas are those 'magic' pianos that play all by themselves, the keys go up and down, prompted by machinery. They are in demand from pubs, clubs and hotels and the company stocks the world's largest range of pianola rolls. It also sells nickelodeons, player organs and pianocorders and helps people trying to restore their own pianolas with materials and spare parts. 81 04 10a & b

1981 05 07

Mainstop, a subsidiary of the giant British American Tobacco Industries, has its eye on the Cambridge Cattle Market site with an outline planning application for a £5 million scheme providing more than twice the space of Sainsbury's in Coldham's Lane. Mainstop already have a superstore in the new Orton 'township' being built outside Peterborough, an area quite different from the site in Cherry Hinton Road which is currently scheduled for light industrial development 81 05 07

1981 05 16

A £5 million plan for a superstore with space for nearly 600 cars on the old Cambridge cattle market has been scrapped. City councillors who were not consulted in advance laughed at the idea saying it was against their policy of only small-scale industrial development on the site. It also provoked fierce criticism from residents who felt the massive traffic it would generate could make life intolerable. The London-based development company has now withdrawn its application. 81 05 16

1981 06 19

The crack of blazing shotguns was heard for the last time at Madingley as Gallyons closed their shooting ground after 70 years. Ernie Johnson has spent his entire working life there and so after 44 years of teaching, advising and correcting the technique of sporting gunmen from all walks of life he is facing his first change of job. The site is surrounded by roads and cannot expand to stage big shoots. 81 06 19

1981 07 17

The first privately-owned British company specialising in biotechnology has been formed by a consortium of leading scientists and businessmen. CLEAR – Cambridge Laboratories for Energy and Resources Ltd – will use genetically engineered organisms for processes ranging from obtaining energy from waste to combating Legionnaires Disease in hotels. It has leased laboratories from Cambridge University and will offer a full technical service to industry for the commercial applications of biotechnology. 81 07 17

1981 07 28

Laurie & McConnell site sold Grosvenor Estates [13.10]

1981 08 08

Johnsons, the menswear shop in Sidney Street has closed down after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started on its present site in the 1830s; the founder Octavius Johnson handed the business to his son and it passed down the family until Alfred Mole bought it. Cecil Mole who took over in 1930, said the shop's three employees had all found other work. 81 08 08

1982 08 24

The final phase of the Coral Park development in Coldham's Lane is now complete. Work began in December 1973 with the demolition of a 160-ft high chimney which had been part of the Cambridge landscape for more than a century. The first warehouse was let to E. Laxton, a national cash and carry operation, and other tenants include W.H. Smith (Wholesale), Pye Telecommunications and Linfood. 82 08 25

1981 09 03

Marks and Spencer's newly-extended Cambridge store includes a roof garden for staff. A three-course lunch in the staff canteen (with flowers on the table), costs 10p. A shampoo and set is £1.25 and a visit to the chiropodist costs 50p. There is a staff medical room and a dentist calls every six months to check teeth. Wages are not high – though the £64.50 a week gross pay for a full-time sales assistant is above the average - but there is a pension and profit-sharing scheme 81 09 03

1981 09 22

Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits to students and townsfolk since 1937 is to close. Their lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has trebled. The business has been hit in other ways – last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies, and there are not as many formal functions as previously. 81 09 22

1981 10 03

Alley boutique Lion Yard closes due rent increase; started 1966 in Falcon Yard & moved Lion Yard 1975 [8.3]

1981 10 09

Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1981 10 09

The closure of Wards, means another long-established name will disappear from the streets of Cambridge. Recently Jack Carter, the outfitters in Portugal Place announced it was to close, before that Johnsons menswear shop in Sidney Street decided to end 150 years of trading and last year Walker Wallpapers, a family firm for nearly 60 years also called it a day. Reasons vary from rising rates and rent bills to increased competition or simply that the old family has run out of members. 81 10 09e

1981 11 05

Shocked traders at Cambridge's Beaumont Centre in East Road have been given notice to quit, just weeks before Christmas. The indoor market, which was gutted by fire six years ago and reopened after a £100,000 facelift, is to be closed down and demolished. Now they are desperately searching for new premises to try and keep their businesses going. 81 11 05a

1982 02 11

Friar House gift shop – 82 02 11

1982 02 19

Alkit, the Cambridge menswear shop in Regent Terrace is shutting after 35 years as the lease has run out. Staff who have been given two weeks' notice say trade has fallen off recently. The Citizens' Advice Bureau offices and a flat used by University Arms Hotel staff may also be affected because they are sublet from Alkit. 82 02 19

1982 02 21

“Kite scheme will see some of the best known names in the chain store world doing battle with family firms which monopolise city centre” [1.15]

1982 03 23

Traders are deserting Magdalene Street in the face of rent rises up to four times the present level, imposed by their college landlords. Several shops already have whitewashed windows and locked doors. Within a year, less than one-third of the original row could remain. Magdalene College says they want to keep it a specialist shopping area but have to get the market rent. 82 03 23 & 23a

1982 05 27

One of Cambridge's first self-service grocery stores, Traylen's of Newmarket Road, is to concentrate on the butchery side of its business. Before the War the shop had its own slaughterhouse on the premises and cattle were driven along the streets from the market. But the opening of Elizabeth Way, increasing traffic and parking restrictions mean customers have found it hard to get to the store Went self-service 22 years' ago but now Beehive kills trade 82 05 27. [9.10]

1982 06 03

Boots open extended shop, Petty Cury [7.9]

1982 07 20

Gallyons close Cambridge shop after 198 years, closed Madingley shooting ground (est 1911 to improve shooting) in 1981) [8.15]

1982 08 24

W. Thompson and Son, the Fitzroy Street furniture firm, is closing after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started as a cabinet makers in Willow Place in 1832 and a fully-fledged furniture makers and sellers had been established by 1881. They had an undertakers' business for years, as well as selling china wholesale. But Peter Thompson says their style of business was becoming outdated: customers were now more conscious of price than quality with big warehouses changing the way furniture is sold. 82 08 24

1983 01 31

George Webb was one of Cambridge's best-known personalities. He introduced all-in-wrestling, indoor roller skating, 3-D movies and cups of tea during the intervals at the cinema. In his later years he built up one of the largest heavy haulage and public works contracting businesses in East Anglia. His bald head, the huge cigars which he chain-smoked and the large American cars he loved to drive became his accepted 'trade-marks' during his colourful business career. 83 01 31

1983 04 23

Les Neal is retiring after half-a-century of dedicated, devoted and skilful service as a gentleman's hairdresser. Apprenticed at the age of 14 in 1932 to Walter George Ambrose, he served with the Priziborsky business in Round Church Street before moving to Watson's in Mill Road. He is a dedicated supporter and leader of the Scout movement and an enthusiastic and expert player of the bagpipes. – Frank Matthews. 83 04 23

1983 06 03

Bacons closes, came Cambridge 1810, moved Rose Crescent 1830 [7.14]

1983 06 22

W. Stockbridge & sons to close (centenary 1970, moved Cambridge 1874 in Sidney St, moved Bridge St c1854) [10.6]

1983 07 06

The closure of Stockbridge's 113-year-old antique shop in Bridge Street follows closely on that of another shop bearing the same name. C.P. Stockbridge of Histon set up two years ago when the other branch of the family left its prime site on King's Parade. The main reason for closure is that the antique trade is depressed and the new shop never took off. 83 07 06 p5

1983 09 21

Tesco is to close its Cambridge Regent Street supermarket. The store, which opened in 1964, has been left behind by developments in supermarket design. Managers now consider it too small – it is 11,000 square feet as compared to 30,000 at Bar Hill – and there is no provision for car parking. It would need a major refit to bring it up to modern standards and this could not be justified. 83 09 21 p16 83 09 22 p5

1983 09 24

“Goodbye to the little stores”: faced with massive increases in overhead costs they can no longer continue to trade; as the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere & charm. The goods they sold & the services they offered are often not obtainable elsewhere & are usually replaced by fashion, jewellery or shoe shops, all branches of national concerns [11]

1983 09 29

Gray's the bookbinders of Green Street has been sold, the latest of a long line of small Cambridge specialist shops which are rapidly disappearing. Victims in recent years have included Bacon Brothers cigar merchants, S.P. Ora tobacconists, Gallyon the gun and fishing tackle dealers, F.O. Sennitt, fish, game and poultry merchants and Jack Carter, University robes. They are forced out by the three R's – rent, rates and recession. As the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere and charm 83 09 29 p16

1983 10 11

The new Grafton Centre, the biggest shake-up in Cambridge retailing for a century, is only medium sized in terms of city centre redevelopments but is enough to upset the balance of trade in Cambridge. “No one would pretend that it is linked to the existing shopping centre to the extent that people can use both on the same day”, said the man in charge of the project for Grosvenor Estates. The next six months trading will be keenly watched by shops in the historic centre. The attractiveness of the Grafton Centre will depend on easy access and whether it offers value for money and diversity. They have accepted lower rents in order to get shopkeepers which cannot afford big overheads. 83 10 11 p11

1983 10 20

Shopkeepers in Burleigh Street feel they will be crippled by the opening of the Grafton Centre. Trade has been disastrous since the road was dug up five weeks ago and left with piles of sand, rubble and deep, wide holes. Now some are refusing to pay their rates bills. They feel developers want to make the area look like a tip so customers would stay in the Grafton Centre. But the City Surveyor says the road is going to be pedestrianised and will be completed on time 83 10 20 p16

1983 10 20

A quarter of a century of planning wrangles ended today when the £27 million Grafton shopping centre development opened. Part is still unfinished but there was a general sense of relief that the Kite at last had its new prestigious shopping development. It looks slightly bare as many of the shop units were still unfilled however shoppers seemed happy as they walked through the new arcade of the main concourse. 83 10 20 p1

1983 11 06

The new Presto supermarket in the Grafton Centre caters for a wide range of customers with its instore bakery, fresh meat, wet fish and delicatessen counters offering an up-market choice alongside a wide range of Red Dot bargain lines and specially-packaged basics. What its competitors want to

know is what kind of shoppers it will attract, and how many. It will offer a cheque-cashing service where customers can withdraw £50 at a time 83 11 06 p5

1983 12 13

An old Cambridge family business which closed 20 years ago is being 'revived'. Matthew and Son was once a prosperous department store founded in the 1830s in Trinity Street with its own tea rooms and restaurant. It closed in 1963 because of high rents but now the great-great-nephew of the founder, Michael Matthew, has started up the tea and coffee business again in much humbler surroundings of a market stall 83 12 13 p12

1983 12 19

Vogue, one of Cambridge's most distinctive fashion shops is closing but for them a closing-down sale does not mean a wild scrimmage as customers fight over coats and dresses. Instead a locked door keeps the bargain-hunters out on the pavement while staff deal with two or three clients at a time. Vogue first opened in 1934 when Mark Harris set out to build a high-class trade which today means dresses of up to £500 in price. They are the top fashion house in East Anglia but soon the old shop and its garden will disappear. His father opened Modiste in a former public house further down St Andrews Street in the 1920s and all of his six brothers and sister were in business in Cambridge. 83 12 19 p5 [13.3]

1984 03 20

It is exactly 50 years since Marks and Spencer moved into Cambridge at a time when there were major alterations in the narrow Sidney Street which attracted several major stores. It quickly established itself, extending to 10,000 feet in 1937 and doubling its space in 1966. There was further development four years ago when a third floor was added. In 1965 the firm established a warehouse in a former garage in Occupation Road previously owned by Progressive Coaches. Now they are appealing for memories from previous members of staff for a special display 84 03 30 p24

1984 05 16

The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to mark its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. A fanfare performed by the 20-piece orchestra from the Manor School greeted the royal party. After the opening the queen spoke to many of the children and shop staff. 84 05 16 p12 [1.10]

1984 07 12

Cobblers Yard 'forgotten courtyard' [446.15.2]

1984 09

Colin Lunn tobacconist opened 1899; 50 years ago Cambridge boasted 40 tobacconists, with demise of Bacons this the only one [8.9]

1984 09 28

Cambridge's oldest greengrocer's business, Naylor's of Mill Road which has been trading since January 1900 has closed. It was founded by William Thomas Naylor who moved from his family's farm at Duck End, Guilden Morden. Before long he had opened a second shop, now a delicatessen and a greengrocer's in Norfolk Street. The Mill Road shop had a better clientele in those days. Many of the houses were owned by fairly wealthy families. Now they are let as bed-sitters and most of the custom has been from students. Doctors and maternity hospital staff were good customers but the hospital has now closed. Courgettes, kiwi fruit and aubergines have joined traditional English products in recent years 84 09 28 [7.1]

1984 10 01

Ninety years ago a shrewd and enterprising woman was born, Mrs Catherine Holland. Her first husband died young and she needed to make a living by supplying yeast which was much in demand among the many local bakers. Although vital it was only used in minute amounts so Mr Holland was

able to cycle around making his deliveries. The yeast was supplied in huge sacks and the secret was to keep it fresh by selling it in small amounts at regular intervals. For a long time the business was continued in the family home in Sedgwick Street but during the First World War they got the sole agency for a major brand and moved to Mill Road. After that the business prospered 84 10 01 p15

1984 11 02

Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved 84 11 02 p8 [7.2]

1984 11 14

The redevelopment of the huge Co-op site in Burleigh Street has been beset with problems ever since the first report on Cambridge shopping in the fifties. Now it has transformed its flagship store inside and out, demonstrating its faith in the twin shopping centre concept. It says much for the Co-op's business acumen that it has kept pace with the latest trends, adapting to the needs of the times and retaining a hard core of loyal support from its members. 84 11 14 suppl6 [13.6]

1984 12 27

"Late night shopping is here to stay" [7.3]

1984 10 08

Pigott's, the Cambridge hardware chain has closed its central branch in Sussex Street. They have been in the street since the 1930s and always did a good trade but had increasingly severe problems with parking and with wholesalers getting to the shop. Then a rent review was the final thing, the manager said. 84 10 08 p7 (celebrated centenary 1963) [9.8]

1984 12 14

Salisbury's newly-restyled store in Petty Cury is just what Cambridge needs. It is one of their latest generation, combining fashion, function and fun. For many years the Salisbury name stood for leather handbags but perhaps mother and grandmother didn't carry so much around as girls today – maybe she didn't go out to work, read so much, do aerobics, jog, drive or make herself up as frequently! Now there are casual bags, executive cases and travel bags as well as umbrellas, hats and knitwear. From the moment the doors opened customers have been pouring in. 84 12 14a & b

1985 01 03

Mr Douglas Winton-Smith who headed the Cambridge sausage and pie-making firm of Winton-Smith Ltd, has died aged 72. The company was set up by his father and taken over by a London businessman in the 1960s. Production continue at Winton Smith (Foods) Ltd until the Cambridge works closed 11 years ago and moved to Cheshire 85 01 03

1985 02 01

The closing down a Scurfield's shop must bring a sense of loss to anyone who has brought up a family in Cambridge. It catered for all the basic essential of kitchen life – a little brown teapot, storage jars and black casseroles like benign witches' cauldrons. Then there were the mugs from the earthy pottery mugs to the bold primary colours of 1984. Another joy were the cookery books from the original George Scurfield's basic primer on the baking of bread to the classics of today – Ken Lo and Madhur Jaffrey 85 02 01a

1985 03 21

Pipe smokers and cigar lovers will welcome a specialist shop which will fill the gap left by the closure of Bacons in 1983. Harrison and Simmonds, which was founded in Bedford in 1928, is taking the shop at 17 St John's Street, Cambridge. The fixtures and fittings have the traditional look offering a

standard of service that matches the timeless quality such a store should have. Customers will be able to try tobacco from all over the world labelled with Dickensian names such as Barnaby Rudge and Pickwick and the shop offers hand-blending to give the pipe smoker optimum choice and also stock a wide range of fine pens. 85 03 21b

1985 03 26

Mill Road once one of city's largest & thriving shopping centres ... shops closing & take-always springing up [446.14.4]

1985 05 29

Millers Yard £3M courtyard office & shop development [446.14.3]

1985 07 24

D. Muncey jewellers celebrate centenary [9.1]

1985 08 08

Cambridge could soon get a third new superstore competing with Tesco at Bar Hill, Sainsburys in Coldham's Lane and the Beehive complex off Newmarket Road. Asda plans to build a huge new complex on Milton Road opposite the Arbury and King's Hedges housing estates. It would take up almost half of the Cambridge Business Park and include a 750-space car park 85 08 08

1985 08 21

One of Cambridge's oldest family butcher's is closing. Derek Traylen's grandfather opened the first shop in Newmarket Road 113 years ago. They had their own slaughterhouse until 1937 and ran three butcher's vans that toured the villages. Derek started in 1938 and is one of the few people in the business who can rear animals, slaughter them, dress them, cut and prepare them, advise people about them and cook them. But people now buy pre-packed meat in supermarkets 85 08 21

1985 10 02

Bodger's founded 1851, moved Sidney St 1934, sold as going concern, freehold worth £800,000 (which affects rents chargeable elsewhere) [7.10] Bodger's, one of Cambridge's oldest-established university menswear shops which has been on the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street since 1922, is up for sale as a going concern. It is a very prosperous business employing ten full-time staff but the most valuable part of the concern is the freehold of the shop. It includes sales areas on two floors, a cutting room and canteen together with an attached doctor's surgery with a separate entrance and is valued at £800,000. 85 10 02

1985 10 15

Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 10 23

Eight years after Laurie's doors closed forever, the tiers of galleries round the central well which gave the old store such a distinctive character will be alive with shoppers once again. On the official opening a band will once again occupy the bandstand on top of the building in Fitzroy Street. Traders are hoping that the arrival of Habitat will bring an influx of new shoppers to boost the whole area. Sofas are their best-selling furniture line in a range which includes lighting, self-assembly kitchens and fabrics. 85 10 23

1985 10 28

For almost 200 years every gentleman of Cambridge popped in to the little King's Parade shop of Bays and Sons, the hatters. It was started in 1787 and the present shop was built in 1825. It was a traditional firm and never followed fashions. Each time the demand for hats dropped they added another line and eventually sold more blazers, trousers and boaters than gowns and hats. But rents tripled and the premises were taken over by New and Lingwood, shirtmakers. Now with the retirement of Jimmy Bays, the family link has been broken. 85 10 28

1985 10 28

Bays & son, hatters Kings Parade, 200 year old firm, rents tripled, taken over by New & Lingwood [7.12]

1985 11 22

Sally Ann's, Cambridge Salvation Army's highly successful charity shop set up five years ago is now open for business at its new home on the site of the former Fine Fare supermarket in Mill Road, having moved from the Tesco shop in Regent Street. It sells everything from bric-a-brac to books but also has second-hand furniture such as wardrobes, dressers, beds and three-piece suites. These can be used to assist 'distress cases' where a family urgently needs furniture. About 100 volunteers price the items, launder and iron the clothes and operate a delivery service but more are desperately needed to keep up with all the jobs that need doing. 85 11 22b

1986 01 09

Plans for Trumpington shopping centre, first suggested 1973 by Parry Lewis, now revived [7.4]

1986 02 08

Marks & Spencer & Tesco propose double superstore [7.4, 7.5]

1986 03 14

The Cambridge Plate-glass Mutual Insurance Society which has helped traders for 135 years is to be wound up. Membership has shrunk to less than 30 as many local shopkeepers have given up trading and the large chain stores do not insure at all. It was formed in 1851 when plate glass was replacing small paned windows of the Georgian days. Then the most frequent cause of breakages was by a gas light but lately traffic accidents and vandalism have been the main problems. 86 03 14a

1986 06 11

Asda propose Milton Road, three week inquiry [7.6]

1986 06 06

Fifth superstore plan in 10 months - Arbury camp [7.6]

1986 07 17

Co-op plan £6.5M superstore Beehive site which proposed April 1984 now approved [13.7]

1986 08 06

Tesco propose store at Milton rejected by planners [7.5],

1986 08 21

Woolworths close 5 weeks for facelift [10.10]

1986 09 03

The newly-extended Marks and Spencer store in Cambridge includes a staff canteen with flowers on the table, where a three-course lunch costs 10p. A shampoo and set in the staff hairdressing salon costs £1.25 and a visit to the chiropodist is priced at 50p. A Doctor attends the staff medical room weekly with a dentist each six months. Wages are above average at £64.50 for a 38-hour week with a profit-sharing scheme. The store has no difficulty recruiting staff with 800 applicants for 90 new positions. 86 09 03

1986 09 12

Sainsbury to expand Brookes Road [14.5]

1986 09 22

Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits since 1937 is to close. The shop's lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has been trebled. The business has been hit in other ways: last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies and there are not as many formal functions as previously. The remaining stock will be sold off at the start of the new university term. 86 09 22b

1986 11 05

Cambridge Toy Shop, which has been trading for almost 20 years, is planning to close at Christmas. They blame rent increases 86 11 05a

1986 11 18

Cambridge Co-op's new Beehive Centre is the first step in a major redevelopment scheme which is going to give the city a shopping complex for the 21st century. They have obtained additional frontage on to Coldham's Lane including the former Eastern Gas Social Club and will construct a roundabout to ease traffic congestion. The shop has been given a bright new image with additional departments and specialist services including the Kauffman Hair Salon, G & H Kitchens and BMB Windows. 86 11 18

1986 12 08

Plans convert Gt St Andrews into shops [7.7]

1987

"Cambridge is doomed as major shopping centre unless it can cure parking problems" [20.7]

1987 03 14

Barrett's China and Glass shop in St Mary's Street is to close after 200 years in Cambridge with the business transferred to Newmarket. The owner says that the appalling parking problems are one factor for the move. In January a city centre gift shop and a doctor's surgery both moved out for the same reason. The Parsley Pot shop in Lion Yard has also closed. The Managing Director of Eaden Lilley has warned the parking crisis in traffic-choked Cambridge could only get worse. 87 03 14

1987 06 12

Donald Mackay reviews firm's history – 87 06 12d

1987 09 29

A new-look Co-op has come to Cambridge with the refurbishment of the old premises in Burleigh Street producing the latest of the Society's Homemaker stores. Although it now occupies only the ground floor it has a more modern look and concentrates on electrical goods bringing it more in tune with the Grafton Centre. None of the staff have been made redundant though some have moved to the Beehive site. 87 09 29a, b & c

1987 10 07

A vast new shopping complex, described as the largest and most exciting of its kind for many years, has been approved by planners. The joint Co-op and Texas Homecare development on the Beehive site of Coldham's Lane will enable Cambridge to compete with other major shopping cities like Peterborough and Bedford. It will comprise a large supermarket and extensive do-it-yourself store with parking for 1,100 cars. The existing Home Interiors building and garden centre are already being enlarged. Texas will leave its building at the nearby Coral Park trading centre when the new one is ready 87 10 07

1987 10 08

Tansley Typewriter Company celebrates 65 years - 87 10 08

1987 10 14

Jack Reynolds, rock maker and confectioner, is to retire after 40 years in the rock business. His father, James, was known as 'The Rock King' whose stall at the fairs on Midsummer Common was a familiar sight. Jack opened a shop on Newmarket Road about 1947 and has lived in the area all his life. The road has changed a lot; when he came there were houses in Occupation Road and several businesses have disappeared. He no longer makes his own rock but his son and grandson are carrying on the family name. 87 10 14a

1987 10 27

Joshua Taylor, the 127-year-old Cambridge department store is up for sale. The Taylor family say they can no longer carry on in the face of fierce competition from national shop chains. The sale is expected to excite nationwide interest. Three factors have brought about the decision: the need to refit the two shops, a rent review due in 1990 and pending changes in the rating system. The retail market is fast changing and premises must be constantly upgraded. Ironically the present year has been the best they have ever had 87 10 27 & a. Joshua Taylor history – 87 10 28a & b

1987 10 27

A multi-million-pound shopping, hotel, cinema and parking project planned for south Trumpington by Marks and Spencer and Tesco has been scrapped. The vast hypermarket-type development attracted more complaints than any other single planning application ever made in Cambridge. It would have been on green belt land, where building was banned, and the city had shown no support. Residents say this is a wonderful day and there will be great rejoicing in the Trumpington area. 87 10 27

1987 11 03

Your new Debenhams is here at the Grafton Centre! Step into a new shopping experience and discover the delights of Debenhams. Floor upon floor of fashion and home furnishing to please both eye and pocket. And to celebrate our opening we've some really special offers including a range of fondues, Meyer Tensi Cookware, Oneida 44-piece stainless steel canteen (£149), Royal Doulton 'Delphi bone china 18-piece tea set (£75). Late night shopping Wednesdays till 8pm. (Advertisement) 87 11 03b

1987 11 24

First phase of Redevelopment of the Beehive Shopping Centre on Coldham's Lane complete – 87 11 24

1988 01 26

Joshua Taylor, one of Cambridge's most prestigious department stores has been sold. The new owner, London property developers Arlington Security plans to retain the name and upmarket image. Each of the 160 staff have their jobs guaranteed and will get an average loyalty bonus of £1,500. Included in the deal are the main Sidney Street shop, the Bridge Street houseware shop and the Taylor family's academic robe-making business. The deal ends three months of doubt over the 128-year-old store's future following the Taylor family's decision to sell up in the face of fierce competition from national chains 88 01 26

1988 02 04

Tesco Milton superstore approved 88 02 04

1988 04 21

Major refurbishment work has been completed at Cambridge's long-established department store. Joshua Taylor opened his first shop in Ely in 1810 which continued until 1923. His son started in Sidney Street Cambridge in 1860, spreading to Bridge Street in 1955. It became a household name to

shoppers, symbolising a traditional way of life. This will continue say the new owners Arlington Securities who plan 'an exciting future' for the shop. They have retained the elegant sweeping central staircase and now with expansion and financial backing, the future looks rosy. 88 04 21c & d

1988 05 02

Grafton plans for huge extension ¢CEN 4.5.88

1988 05 03

Presto in Grafton Centre to close, "no longer economic", Centre fashion orientated ¢CEN 3.5.88

1988 05 12

Grafton expansion plans "everyone knew it too small" ¢CEN 12.5.88

1988 05 19

Petition for grocery shop to replace Presto ¢CEN 19.5.88

1988 05 26

Eaden Lilley history feature – 88 05 26

1988 06 07

Johns furnishing to move from Bridge St, blame parking ¢CEN 7.6.88

1988 06 09

Health Food stores Rose Crescent closes after 57 years, one of first in country ¢CEN 9.6.88

1988 06 17

Josies fruit & veg shop Newmarket Rd closes after 37 years due traffic & supermarket competition ¢CEN 17.6.88

1988 06 25

Plan to reshape Market Passage & link with Rose Crescent to form modern shopping precinct ¢CEN 25.6.88

1988 06 25

Co-op say acute shortage in retail trade staff, need to bus staff in ¢CEN 25.6.88

1988 07 23

A.A. Roper's traditional tailor's shop in Trinity Street is closing after nearly 80 years and three generations of trading. Stanley Roper, son of the founder Arthur, is retiring as is 77-year-old cloth-cutter Fred Bland who is irreplaceable – his is a dying craft outside London. David Roper is sad to close the shop but says "It is not like before the war, when we used to make suits for five guineas – today the same suit would cost £300" 88 07 23a

1988 09 23

"In the last few years Regent Street has rapidly changed from retail trading to mainly commercial and therefore ceased to attract the shopper" ¢CEN 23.9.88

1988 09 28

Morley & Duke, an electrical company founded in Cambridge in 1926, has become part of the Jakubowski group of companies. It had an excellent reputation for its domestic electrical services and has built up a vast catalogue of clients. 88 09 28

1988 11 03

Planning granted for £30M expansion Grafton Centre, including cinema ¢CEN 3.11.88

1988 11 08

Late night shopping (9pm Wed) likely to continue, began a year ago ¢CEN 8.11.88

1988 11 26

Shops hit by staff crisis, hundreds of retail jobs going begging at Xmas ¢CEN 26.11.88

1988 12 12

Office rents soared 35% in year, shops and industrial rents also up ¢CEN 12.12.88

1988 12 15

St Andrew the Great conversion to shops rejected by Govt. ¢CEN 15.12.88

1989 01 05

Sir M. Macdonald merges with Mott Hay & Anderson to form Mott MacDonald ¢CEN 5.1.89

1989 01 19

W.E. Hunt trophy shop Mill Road to close, opened 1918 ¢CEN 19.1.89

1989 03 01

Milton Tesco's to open ¢CEN 1.3.89

1989 03 07

Jewellers leave Grafton centre - "down market"; rent rise from £5,000 to £12,500 ¢CEN 7.3.89

1989 04 25

Small shops claim sales slump due parking charges - people dash to big shops no time for small ¢CEN 25.4.89

1989 06 08

Grafton centre car park rise leads to 25% drop in number using them ¢CEN 8.6.89

1989 06 16

Ede and Ravenscroft is a firm where you can still find tailors leaning over tables, hand-cutting and hand-stitching gowns and suits. They are the only bespoke tailors who make garments on the premises in Cambridge. There is even a sports coat they made in the 1950s which a client brought back to be repaired. This is the reason top professionals, the wealthy and the peerage are willing to pay upwards of £500 for one suit. Quite simply, they last and you still get your own name tag carefully stitched into a pocket. There has been a tailors shop on the site for more than 200 years. Part of the original opaque glass door of James Neal's – the shop they took over 10 years ago – is still displayed 89 06 16 & a

1989 06 27

Bodgers the outfitters founded its reputation on old-fashioned courtesy and service, specialising in the sale of traditional clothes for traditional gentlemen. For 138 years generations of both town and gown have visited its respectable Sidney Street premises. But the shop, founded in 1851 is to close because of soaring interest rates, four years after it was bought by rival company Shepherd and Woodward of Oxford. The site is one of the only central freeholds not in college hands and is a prime site for speculators. 89 06 27

1989 07 13

City advertises car park prices to entice shoppers back ¢CEN 13.7.89

1989 07 18

Planners approve phase two expansion Grafton Centre ¢CEN 18.7.89

1989 09 03

“Days of major office development are over” following DoE rejection office site at Mitcham’s corner £CEN 3.8.89

1989 09 14

Marks & Spencer - 3 years ago city refused permission to build Market Hill, overturned on appeal - opens £CEN 14.9.89

1989 11 07

Rumbelows to close Petty Cury, follows close of Laskys, Grafton Centre - interest rates & high rents £CEN 7.11.89

1989 11 10

Jarrolds to close Jan 1990 - “too small for number of lines ... turnover no longer in line with value of property” £CEN 10.11.89

1989 11 17

Robert Sayle announce it wishes to move out of Cambridge should Duxford development go ahead - “site too cramped” 89 11 17

1989 11 21

Co-op chiefs have been forced to sell off the freehold of their Burleigh Street store to fend off a cash crisis. The Victorian building has been sold to a London Investment Company and they will lease back the premises. The Co-op began trading in Burleigh Street in 1908 but has been hit by soaring interest rates on loans taken out to cover major projects such as the massive Beehive Centre. It has already put branches up for sale in Mill Road, Milton Road, Waterbeach, Duxford & Cherry Hinton. 89 11 21

1989 12 14

W & G Taylor of Trinity Street, one of Cambridge’s oldest family menswear shops, is closing after 809 years of business. The firm started when George and Walter Taylor (no relation) who both worked at Ryder and Amies, decided to set up in business together but now a threefold increase in the lease is simply beyond their means. The shop describes itself as a gentleman’s outfitters and specialises in hats. Bowlers for Cambridge colleges have been a regular line of business. 89 12 14

1989 12 15

The closure of W & G. Taylor is the latest in a line of small stores squeezed from the city centre by rocketing rents. Two other men’s outfitters, Ropers and Bodgers closed this summer. Another famous shop which closed six years ago in the face of mounting rent and rates was Bacons in Market Street. The Parsley Pot in Lion Yard, Cambridge Fine Jewels of Emmanuel Street and upmarket furnishers, Johns, left their Bridge Street premises for Histon Road last year blaming the traffic chaos and high parking charges 89 12 15

1990

1990 04 25

Cambridge Co-op in precarious financial state and the Beehive shops complex would have to be sold unless merge with Co-operative Retail Services – 90 04 25a

1990 09 26

Waits outfitters celebrates centenary, opened Cutter and Tailor at 70 Hills Road 1890, moved 49 Hills Road 1936 with other branches – 90 09 28c

1990 10 08

Cambridge Robes made ceremonial robes for monarchs, bishops at Portugal Place since 1947; to close – 90 10 08b

1990 10 16

Colin Lunn tobacconist on King's Parade, opened 1899 to close – 90 10 16a

1991 01 03

High rents turning Hobson and Sussex Street into a ghost town, closing shops; area being converted to student accommodation – 91 01 03a

1991 01 10

A long line of small shops has fallen victim to rocketing rents, rates and interest charges and big department stores retailing methods have changed with the introduction of the franchise system of 'shops within shops'. Latest victims are Bodgers outfitters after 139 years – 91 01 10c